

TV advertising: a sign of the times

In the second and last article on the state of the advertising industry in Jordan, John West looks at television and contrasts it with the situation in the press.

AMMAN — Television and radio are the areas of advertising where cultural differences between East and West are most pronounced. To Westerners, many of the ads on their screens seem reminiscent of the sixties, with pre-pop art graphics, boppy rather than rappy jingles, and featuring the newly apparent nuclear family. This is partly due to a different approach within the advertising industry itself, but in greater measure a reflection of the different societies they seek to woo.

In Britain and America, for example, the nuclear family of the sixties has already been largely replaced by yuppieism, with its going-Dutch, wok-cooking, car phone paradigm. The "this could be you" slots have begun to move away from straightforwardly domestic scenes in favour of singles audiences, a measure of the huge increase in buying power that has occurred amongst the young in the industrialised countries. In Jordan, the young professional and the nuclear family are emerging almost simultaneously — Western socio-economic categories cannot be superimposed.

Paradoxically, however, television is the most developed end of the market in Jordan, and its practitioners have fewer grievances of the kind voiced in the first of these articles. "Things are a lot better now than they were

even when I started three years ago," said Sawwan Ayoubi, the advertising director of Jordan's largest television commercial company.

"At the time, we used 35mm cameras, but we had to rent them from Damascus and it was very expensive and time consuming — it took us three months to produce one TV commercial. First we would do the shooting, send the film to London, get the rushes back, do the preliminary editing then send the film back, then send the soundtrack... a thirty second advertisement would take three or four months and cost more than three thousand dinars to produce."

Ayoubi is herself something of a symbol of more relaxed attitudes. As a young woman (she is still only 27) with no experience in the field she had to tread very softly in her first attempts to build up custom. "I had to convince them to take advertising seriously and to take me seriously too," she said, smiling at some obviously eventful memories.

"They would think that I was the secretary. When I started, I had plans and schemes and I don't know what. Before I went to see someone, I would study him and his company. Who he was, what he was doing, how many children he had, what his hobbies were. When I got there, I would just sit and talk, and talk

about things which were of interest to him... and let him speak, listen to him, and take notes. Only then would I suggest what I thought should be done, but very mildly — never strong." Her training as a student of theatre in Beirut had clearly not gone to waste.

Reassurance was so vital, Ayoubi said, because potential clients for television spots were initially just as suspicious of advertising as a rip-off. There had been "hit-and-run" merchants who produced one commercial and then disappeared. "Now when they phone you, and they say 'we need a spot' or 'we need a campaign,' they are already half convinced."

In contrast to the press, concerted campaigns are a standard feature in television advertising. This is without doubt connected to the fact that contracts are also common, creating the certainty and continuity necessary to map out a long term strategy.

"Personally I prefer to work with a contract," says Ayoubi. "Sometimes, they (the customers) get offended if you ask. But if it's a big campaign, we have one — if you're making 6 films, you need a contract." Non-contract work tends to revolve around one-offs, or after services to a valued client — such as changing the captions, or adding a promotion to an existing advertisement already made under contract.

Long term planning

Clients are ready to commit themselves to paper not only because they are persuaded of the benefits of advertising in general,

but also because they closely follow their individual campaigns. "I'm having more feedback now," Ayoubi claimed. "When I first started nobody would call me and say 'this is a nice commercial, we saw it last night,' who produced it? But now people are interested."

One example of what is possible with long term planning is "the link concept." Arab Telemedia recently produced four commercials for a food company (yet to be shown on television). Each advertisement has its own, differentiated function, the first one conveying the broad idea, and each of the other three gradually heightening the message. They will be shown in a precise sequence of interlocking stages, designed to form a cycle.

From the perspective of the viewer, commercial 1 is followed by and merges with commercial 2, which then proceeds to do the same with 3, and 3 the same with 4 — commercial 1 then reappears to merge with commercial 4 and complete the chain. The cumulative effect creates much greater impact (and is cheaper) than four unrelated commercials, while avoiding the monotony of repeating the same commercial over and over again. As any agent will tell you, in advertising monotony is death.

Television advertisers, for all the greater respect accorded to them and their higher profile with

advertising to be cultural imposition from the West, dictating new social norms which run contrary to Muslim codes of behaviour. Commercialisation represents not progress but gross materialism.

Proper supervision

Ayoubi regards receptivity to such fears as an essential part of her job. When the subject of public opposition to advertising came up, she talked of the potato chip incident when several rival companies began to include prize vouchers in their packets. "The kids would buy chips like crazy — one kid would buy ten bags, and then open them all. It's not good for the kids to be oriented in this way. It creates problems for their parents, they eat all this junk food, it's non-educational." But while the protesters felt the campaign should be stopped, nothing happened, highlighting the problem of supervision of this infant industry.

While there is a group of people who monitor commercials that are to go on the air, inspecting them for quality and for content, there is no set policy or guidelines.

Consequently, producers only know whether an advertisement is acceptable by trial and error, and after they have finished shooting. Ayoubi is an advocate of more organised surveillance.

"It cannot be done by one or two people sitting in front of a

'If business is good, it's great to advertise. If business is bad you'd better advertise.'

machine. There must be a committee with set resolutions — 'this is OK' or 'this kind of thing we definitely reject'. If there is no limit (by process of consistent regulation) it would be defeating the purpose of a TV commercial."

She cited the case of Pepsi, who ran a promotion in which a car was offered as a prize to the lucky winner of the right bottle-top. Whole crates were bought at one go, and the streets were littered by half drunk bottles.

Curiously, the traditional Arabic language itself seems to defy the advertising phenomenon. One of Ayoubi's major problems is coming near widely slogans. "Arabic is not a prepositional language like English. In English, you take a preposition or a short word 'it', 'is', 'why', or 'where' and then you play with it, you make puns. In Arabic, plays on words tend to be complex but in advertising you have to keep it simple."

Style in Arabic commercials is very direct. Soft music, and jingles are particularly common features. Ayoubi maintains that although locally produced commercials are expected by clients to be simple, if it is known that an advertisement has come in from

their clients, still suffer the same information chasm separating them from their secondary customers — the public. There are no market surveys or feedback studies, and the Jordanian public still remains an almost undifferentiated mass. Certainly, common sense assumptions can be made — when you promote Petra Bank travellers cheques you are obviously dealing only with people who have enough money to go abroad, whereas soft drinks have a universal appeal. But it is a far cry from the A's, B's, and C's — each category within defined levels of income, education and lifestyle — that agencies in London or New York work with.

Having said that, there are two groups of the population which the advertising industry as a whole probably bypasses. First, the lowest income families. They can only buy what they need, not what they want, and are thus debarred from the bulk of consumer items. But even within the essential goods sector, they cannot usually afford the luxury of brand selection.

The second group are the traditionally minded, who are not so much excluded as self-excluding. While they possess ample buying power, such people often feel



Shoot: A commercial being shot in Petra

abroad, then paradoxically sophistication is highly desirable. "Many of my ads have passed as though they were made abroad, and they were very successful... but the minute they feel it is done here they get down on it and criticise it... I don't know why." Many commercials feature Western women because Arab women are reluctant to appear on the screen.

As with Press advertising, rates for prime space are surprisingly low. A 30 second slot on Jordan Television 'A' time (from 7:30 to 10 p.m.) costs JD 210 for what is known in the trade as "a station break" (i.e. in between programmes). Fawzi Khouri, Director of Jordan Television's Commercial Department, quoted total annual trade as JD 1,600,000 gross. But the time various discounts are factored in however, such as 20% for Jordanian companies, 15% agency commission, and volume discounts which can reach 10% for JD 10,000 trade in a twelve months period, net returns are a little over JD 1,200,000.

As in Europe and America, cultural norms are interestingly revealed by certain aspects of style. For example, while in the United States "aggressive" is one of the highest attributes one ad man can bestow on another, in Arab countries such an approach is widely seen as being counter-productive. As a result, there is no negative campaigning by one company against a rival company's product.

Another difference is in women's voices and postures,

which in the industrialised countries have often come to caricature mens' in the wake of the feminist movement of the sixties — picture the young woman with wide framed glasses, dressed in a suit who stands with hands on hips, legs apart and almost glares at you as she says "I use XYZ quick shampoo, because I can't allow a minute of my time to be wasted. Can you?". In Jordan, female voiceovers remain persuasive rather than imperative, and female-to-female appeal is most often found in promoting family items.

Advertising can well be regarded as the index of a country's consumerisation, provided that the mass media are widely distributed throughout society. Such media have been firmly established in the Arab World for many years — bedouin in the desert who have no electricity supply still possess televisions which run off batteries.

Illiteracy is fast decreasing. Given the government's strategy of economic liberalisation, the industry will grow faster in Jordan than the economy as a whole. It will probably continue to grow even in the face of continued recession, for once "the advertising ethic" has been introduced, for better or worse it cannot be withdrawn.

In the not too distant future Amman businessmen will be faced with the same advice as their New York counterparts — if business is good, it's great to advertise. If business is bad, you'd better advertise.

Zarqa takes steps against invasion of locusts

ZARQA (Petra, J.T.) — Zarqa Governorate is taking precautionary measures against the possible invasion of locusts of the eastern desert regions of the Kingdom, and specific instructions have been issued to all concerned authorities to be on the lookout and report any movement of swarms of locusts.

Zarqa Governor Eid Al Qataneh passed on directions in this respect to the district governors in the eastern regions and also at the desert areas of Omari and Azraq, and later chaired a meeting of senior officials to discuss the situation.

The precautionary measures followed reports that swarms of desert locusts stretching over a 650-kilometre front had begun invading Saudi Arabia since Sunday.

Officials in Saudi Arabia said the invasion could be the worst in 20 years.

The insects are now along most of the country's narrow Red Sea coastal area called the Tihama, infesting an area running from 350 kilometres north of the port city of Jeddah to 300 kilometres south of the city.

Last spring at least 19 swarms of locusts invaded north-west of Saudi Arabia near Tabuk which is not far from the Jordanian border, and a senior Ministry of Agriculture official in Amman said that the Kingdom was bracing itself for a possible invasion in its southern region.

The official said then that the swarms were about 200 kilometres from the Jordanian borders and that upon directives from His Majesty King Hussein, Jordanian officials maintained close contacts with Saudi Arabia to monitor the situation and take precautionary measures against any invasions.

When the locusts invasion was first reported in Saudi Arabia, Ministry of Agriculture Secretary General Salem Al Lawzi said Jordan was free of locusts and the government allocated sufficient funds and purchased equipment to fight the pest.

Hammouri opens exhibition

AMMAN (Petra) — Culture and National Heritage Minister Dr. Mohammad Hammouri Tuesday opened an exhibition entitled "Al Bait Al 'Arabi" by Hana Sadik Beraudo at the Royal Cultural Centre. The exhibition will last six days (Petra).



Learn your lines: Instructing the eager actors

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 72111-19

PROGRAMME ONE
15:30 Korean
15:50 Programme review
16:00 Children's programmes
17:15 Kid Song
17:35 Scientific programme
18:00 News summary in Arabic
18:05 News, Cairo news message
18:15 Local series
19:40 Programme review
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Arabic series
21:30 Programme review
21:30 Local programme
21:50 Television magazine
23:00 News summary in Arabic
23:10 Wrestling

PROGRAMME TWO
17:30 Champs Elysees
19:00 News in French
19:15 Ajajourd'hui En Jordanie
19:30 News in Arabic
20:00 News in Arabic
21:10 Korea, the Unknown War
22:20 News in English
22:30 Gentlemen and Players
23:10 Married with Children

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM & partly on 950 KHz, SW
Tel: 72111-19

07:00 Light Music
07:30 Newsdesk
08:00 Morning Show
09:00 News Summary
10:00 Morning Show Contd.
11:00 Animal Vegetable Mineral
11:30 Book Club
12:00 News Summary
12:05 News Summary
13:00 News Summary
13:05 Pop Session
14:00 News Bulletin
14:10 Instruments
14:30 The Young Sound
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News in Summary
16:05 Instruments
16:30 Old Favourites
17:00 Jordan Weekly
17:30 Pop Session
18:00 News Summary
18:05 Science Report
18:30 Book Club
18:45 Old Favourites

19:00 News Desk
19:30 Ode with a Star
20:00 Evening Show
21:00 News Summary
21:05 Evening Show Contd.
22:00 News Summary
23:00 News Summary

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1323 KHz

06:00 Newsdesk 06:30 Katherine Mansfield Stories 06:45 Reflections 06:50 Financial News 07:00 World News 07:05 Twenty-Four Hours News Summary 07:30 Report on Religion 07:45 The World Today 08:00 Newsdesk 08:30 Meridian 09:00 World News 09:05 Twenty-Four Hours News Summary 09:30 Development 09:35 Classical Record Review 10:30 Hancock's Half Hour 11:00 World News 11:05 British Press Review 11:15 The World Today 11:30 Financial News followed by Sports Roundup 11:45 Jazz Scene U.K. 12:00 News Summary followed by Omnibus 12:30 Prompts! 13:00 World News 13:05 News about Britain 13:15 Katherine Mansfield Stories 13:30 Meridian 14:00 Newsdesk 14:15 Smith and Son 14:25 The Farming World 14:45 Sports Roundup 15:00 World News 15:05 Twenty-Four Hours News Summary 15:30 Development 15:35 Outlook, opening with 5-Minute News 16:45 Report on Religion 17:00 Radio Newsdesk 17:15 Mastering Photography 17:30 The Million Pound Radio Show 18:00 World News 18:05 News about Britain 18:15 Celluloid Rock 18:45 The World Today 19:00 World News 19:05 Twenty-Four Hours News Summary 19:30 News Ideas 19:40 Book Choice 19:45 Sports Roundup 20:00 Newsdesk 20:30 Multitrack 2 21:00 Outlook, opening with News Summary 21:30 Stock Market Report 21:45 Good Books 22:00 World News 22:05 Twenty-Four Hours News Summary 22:30 Assignment 23:00 News Summary followed by Network UK 23:15 Sportsworld 23:45 Sportsworld contd. 24:00 World News 08:00 The World Today 08:30 Financial News 08:40 Reflections 08:45 Sports Roundup 01:00 World News 01:05 Commentary 01:15 Write On! 01:30 Multitrack 2

VOICE OF AMERICA

MW 1290 & SW 720L 9565, 11740, 11925 and 15210 KHz

06:00 News 06:10 Newsline 06:30 VOA Morning 07:00 News 07:10 Newsline 07:30 VOA Morning 08:00 News 08:10 Newsline 08:30 VOA Morning 09:00 News 09:10 Newsline 09:30 VOA Morning 10:00 News 10:10 Newsline 10:30 Music USA 19:00 News 19:10 Focus 19:30 Special English News & Features 20:00 News 20:10 Newsline 20:30 Magazine Show 21:00 News 21:10 Focus 21:30 Special English News & Features 22:00 News 22:10 Newsline America 22:30 Music USA 23:00 News & Editorial 23:15 Music USA 23:40 News 08:10 World Report

CULTURAL CENTRES & LIBRARIES

Royal Cultural Centre, Tel. 6610267
American Centre 644371
American Centre Library 641520
British Council 6361478
Goethe Institute 637009
Soviet Cultural Centre 644203
Spanish Cultural Centre 624049
Turkish Cultural Centre 639777
Haya Arts Centre 665192
Husseini Youth City 6671816
Y.W.C.A. 641793
Y.M.C.A. 664251
Amman Municipal Library 637111
Univ. of Jordan Library 843555
Abdul Janid Shoman Foundation 672541
Amman Municipal Library 637111

MUSEUMS

"Children's Heritage and Science Museum." Fun and knowledge for all ages, plus a small planetarium at the Haya Arts Centre. Open all week 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed on Friday.
Fethiye Museum Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m.-5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651760.
Jordan Archaeological Museums: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabbal Al Qara' (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00

a.m.-5:00 p.m. [Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.]
Closed Tuesdays.

Jordan National Gallery: Consists of a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Momazzah, Jabbal Luweibdeh. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 630128.
Martyrs' Memorial Military Museum: Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 644340.

SERVICE CLUBS

Lions Amman Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.
Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel, 7:30 p.m.
Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.
Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the Intercontinental Hotel, 2:00 p.m.
Royal Automobile Club. Jabbal Amman, Eighth Circle. Tel. 815261

PRAYER TIMES

04:21 Fajr
05:38 (Sunrise) Duha
11:21 Dhuhr
14:33 'Asr
17:02 Maghrib
18:20 Isha

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabbal Amman, Tel. 624590.
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabbal Luweibdeh, Tel. 637440.
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabbal Hussein, Tel. 617157. Sunday English mass (summer time 6 p.m., winter time 5 p.m.).
Terzian Church (Roman Catholic), Jabbal Luweibdeh, mass in Italian language, meet every Saturday at 5:30

p.m. Tel: 622366
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali, Tel. 623541.
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabbal Amman, Tel. 678906, chaplain's residence tel. 611359.
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, Tel. 711331.
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, Tel. 772261.
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, Tel. 717751.
Amman International Church (Interdenominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani, Tel. 685326.
Evangelical Lutheran Church [Church of the Good Shepherd] Amman, Arabic Service: Sunday 7 p.m., Rev. N. Smir, tel. 811295.
Rainbow Congregation (meets at the Good Shepherd's Church) Interdenominational-ecumenical. English Service: Saturday at 6:30 p.m. tel. 822605, Rev. Veli.
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (Mormon) Tel. 815817, 812164.

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport. Tel. (081) 53300-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

09:00 Agaba (RJ)
09:30 Dhahran, Kuwait (RJ)
09:45 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
10:00 Bahrain (RJ)
10:15 Larnaca (RJ)
16:20 Los Angeles, Chicago, Vienna (RJ)
17:10 Istanbul (RJ)
17:15 Paris (RJ)
17:20 Athens (RJ)
17:30 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
17:45 Madrid, Geneva, (RJ)

17:55 Brussels, Frankfurt (RJ)
18:30 Belgrade (RJ)
19:00 London, Rome (RJ)
01:10 Baghdad (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

07:10 Karachi (PK)
10:25 Kuwait (KU)
10:40 Damascus (AZ)
12:15 Sanaa, Jeddah (YI)
12:30 Cairo (MS)
12:45 Kuwait (KU)
15:00 Jeddah, Medina (SV)
18:10 Tunis (TU)
21:15 Frankfurt, Damascus (LH)
21:55 Tripoli, Cairo (BA)
23:55 London, Cairo (BA)

DEPARTURES ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

06:45 Agaba (RJ)
08:30 Belgrade (RJ)
11:00 Vienna, New York (RJ)
11:10 Athens (RJ)
11:20 Tunis, Casablanca (RJ)
11:40 Istanbul (RJ)
12:00 London (RJ)
19:15 Calcutta (RJ)
19:30 Riyadh (RJ)
19:30 Dhahran (RJ)
19:45 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
20:10 Cairo (RJ)
20:15 Jeddah (RJ)
20:30 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
20:50 Baghdad (RJ)
21:10 Damascus (RJ)
21:15 Bangkok (RJ)
22:15 Calcutta (RJ)
01:30 Dhahran (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

05:30 Cairo, London (BA)
08:30 Larnaca, Zurich (SR)
08:10 Damascus, Tripoli (PK)
08:15 Beirut (ME)
11:25 Kuwait (KU)
11:30 Rome (AZ)
13:05 Cairo (MS)
13:15 Jeddah, Sanaa (YI)
14:00 Tripoli (LH)
16:00 Medina, Jeddah (SV)
19:00 Kuwait (TU)
22:55 Karachi (PK)

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be partly cloudy with chances of scattered rain and winds will be northwesterly moderate to fresh. In Agaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Amman 14 23
Agaba 21 32
Deserts 12 25
Jordan Valley 16 31

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 23, Agaba 31. Humidity readings: Amman 45 per cent, Agaba 32 per cent.

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Yusuf Al Hurani 711462
Dr. Akram Samhan 894611
Dr. Artan Al Ashhab 625207
Dr. Adel Dabedob 893644
Firas pharmacy 661912
Ferdows pharmacy 778336
Al Asma pharmacy 637055
Nairoukh pharmacy 623672
Al Salam pharmacy 636730
Yacoub pharmacy 644945
Shmeisani pharmacy 637690

TAXIS:

Ahram taxi 663911
Zaid taxi 664476
Khayyam taxi 61541
Cairo taxi 819157
Jordan taxi 623050
Kurdi taxi 841309

IRBID:

Dr. Munib Sakm 1-1
Al Sharra' pharmacy 985238

ZARQA:

Khalifeh pharmacy 985417

EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Directorate 661111
Civil Defence Immediate 61541
Rescue 630341
Civil Defence Emergency 199
Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade 198, 891228
Blood Bank 778303

Highway Police 843402
Traffic Police 639141
Public Security Directorate 630321
Shel Complaints 605801
Free Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage 897407
Complaints 787111
Amman Municipality 787111
Telephone Information 642362
(Directory assistance) 12
Overseas Calls 17
Central Amman Telephone 623101
Repairs 661101
Abdali Telephone Repairs 731111
Radio Jordan 774111
Water Authority 640100
Jordan Electricity Authority 815615
Electric Power 648411, 636381
RJ Flight Information 18-52000
Queen Alia Intl. Airport 18-52000

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:
Husseini Medical Centre 813813/32
Khalifeh Maternity, J. Amn 644281/6
Abdali Maternity, J. Amn 64241/2
Jabbal Amman Maternity 642362
Malhas, J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Shmeisani 664171/4
Shmeisani Hospital 669131
Shmeisani Hospital 845845
Al-Muasher Hospital 666173/7
The Islamic, Abdali 666173/7
Al-Abli, Abdali 664164/6
Ibani, Al-Muhajreen 775110/3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 891611/5
Queen Alia Hospital 602240/50
Amal Hospital 674155
ZARQA:
Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983323
Zarqa National Hospital (09)991071
Ibn Sina Hospital (09)986732
IRBID:
Princess Basma Hospital (02)275555
Greek Catholic Hospital (02)272715
Ibn Al Nafes Hospital (02)247100
AQABA:
Princess Haya Hospital (03)314111



Prince Hassan receives Iraqi chief

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Tuesday reviewed with Iraqi Armed Forces Chief of Staff Lieutenant-General Nizar Abdul Karim Faisal the current events in the region. The Iraqi Ambassador in Amman also attended the meeting. Faisal Tuesday visited Al Hussein Medical City and was briefed on the medical services by National Medical Institution Director-General Dr. Daoud Hamaniya. The Iraqi chief of staff visited

Crown Prince suggests establishment of regional centre

Scholars to analyse present state of art education in Islamic World

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Tuesday opened the third international seminar on Islamic arts, and suggested the establishment of a regional centre that would exchange information with other "centres of excellence" in the U.S. and Europe.

The three-day seminar, entitled "problems of art education in Islamic countries," brings together more than 60 Islamic art scholars and connoisseurs from universities, art museums and institutions around the world, in an attempt to analyse the present state of art education in the Islamic World.

In his opening speech, the Crown Prince emphasised the need to disseminate information handled during such symposia as well as the need to stress universalism within the Islamic heritage.

"It is time that the Islamic World emphasises its common ground... I cannot underestimate the importance of universalism for the Muslim World," the Crown Prince said.

He added that there was a need for a collective effort to popularise and interpret the information exchanged during the conference so that it may be used in schools.

Information exchanged through a regional centre, the Crown Prince said, should be "synthetic." He said Jordan would gladly contribute to the establishment of such a centre. He urged participants at the conference to come up with precise recommendations at the end of their meetings.

Her Royal Highness Princess Wijdan Ali, president of the Royal Society of Fine Arts, also addressed the opening session of the seminar.

She said that although the Islamic World has taken great steps in the drive towards scientific, industrial, educational and social development, it had neglected art education for the Muslims.

"In the midst of our material development we managed to neglect an important factor in our culture: art education for the Muslim child, youth and adult," she said.

He said that the IAS prepared the working paper in response to a call by the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) during last year's meeting held in Turkey and in the light of an OIC meeting held in Amman.

Mulqi said that the paper deals with the deteriorating food security situation in the Islamic World and proper measures that should be taken to bridge the gap between consumption and production.

The paper, Mulqi said, requests the Islamic nation to adopt a long-term strategy for ensuring food supplies for the Islamic World until the year 2000 and to establish cooperation among research centres operating in Islamic countries to help achieve that goal.

The JVA is currently finalising a study on the distribution of

and for preserving and promoting the Islamic cultural heritage in particular.

"Jordan's pioneering work under His Majesty King Hussein, to spread education and enlightenment far and wide throughout the Kingdom, and to bring the fruits of science and technology to every nook and corner of the land, are an abiding source of inspiration to us all," Ali said.

The Islamic Arts Foundation programme, he said, was structured to "relate the past through the present to the future."

He regretted the fact that in the sphere of art and aesthetics, the Islamic heritage has suffered what he called a "diminution" in the eyes and estimation of the Islamic World itself.

"In our quite understandable anxiety to acquire new scientific skills and socio-economic tools to meet the challenge of a technological age, we lost track of those aesthetic values and creative pursuits which made the Islamic World not so long ago a unique centre of cultural and intellectual excellence over a substantial part of the globe," Ali said.

He described that as a "tragic loss," that had already affected, and continues to affect, genera-

tions throughout the Islamic World. A contributing factor to that situation, he said, was the fact that the teaching art as a subject had been neglected in the educational curriculum in most institutions of the Islamic World.

"The challenge before us now is to restore the centrality of creative vision as the core of our educational system so that the child begins to look at the world not as a hurdle to conquer but as a voyage of discovery, full of pleasure and excitement," Ali said.

The secretary general of the Organisation of Islamic Conference, Sharifuddin Pirzada sent a message to conference participants in which he said that by hosting the symposium, Jordan had made an important contribution to the project of Islamic civilisation and that such a contribution was "worthy of deep admiration and evaluation."

"At this crucial phase of our history when the Muslim World confronts diverse challenges it is important that we accelerate our efforts to uphold Islamic values and traditions," Pirzada said. "It is imperative to check and rectify the often willful distortion of Islamic Art and culture by our de-

tractors."

The Islamic Arts Foundation was established in London in 1981 as a forum for the study and critical appreciation of arts in the Islamic World.

Its first conference, entitled "the arts in Islamic lands" was held in 1982 in the United Kingdom and concentrated on the nature and philosophy of Islamic arts, the problems of conservation and restitution as well as the place of art in the society and culture of Islam.

The second seminar was held in 1985 also in the United Kingdom, and was entitled "Islamic arts resources in public and private collections."

During the first day, participants of the conference presented working papers on art education in Bangladesh, Turkey, Morocco, Iraq, Tunisia, Jordan, Brunei, Malaysia, India and Egypt.

Other papers covered the training of art teachers from the Arabic-speaking countries in the Islamic World, and art education between Eastern and Western artistic visions.

Wednesday's sessions include topics on the teaching of art education at universities and art institutes in European countries.

Italy donates equipment, vehicles to society for hearing impaired

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.I) — The Queen Alia Society for the Rehabilitation of the Hearing Impaired Tuesday received equipment and two vehicles from the Italian government to help it carry out its humanitarian services.

The gift was presented to the Society President Hanan Tougan by Italian Ambassador to Jordan

Luigi Amaduzzi who was later accompanied on a tour of various parts of the society's special hearing centre.

Under an agreement between the Italian government and the society, the former provided two other sets of equipment for the centre and scholarships to give training to Jordanian personnel

involved in the rehabilitation process.

Last August, the Italian Ambassador presented Jordan with a mobile medical unit to service the Al Hussein Society for the Education and Rehabilitation of the Physically Handicapped and the Cerebral Palsy Foundation.

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

KAYED SPEAKS AT APU MEETING: Upper House of Parliament Member Hassan Al Kayed has delivered Jordan's address to an Arab Parliamentary Union (APU) meeting in Rabat outlining the rules of the legislative and executive authorities in Jordan. Kayed said the executive authority in the Kingdom has been empowered to issue legislation and laws in the absence of the legislative authority under the present emergency circumstances, and has the power to propose laws to parliament (Petra).

CDD CENTRES GET PRIZES: A ceremony was held at the Civil Defence Department (CDD) Tuesday to honour civil defence centres that were judged the winners in a competition held to test the quality of their services to the public, and the prizes were presented by CDD Director General Khaled Tarawneh (Petra).

TAFLEH SEWERAGE: Water Authority of Jordan department in Tafleh district Tuesday announced the completion of a sewerage project and a wastewater treatment plant for Tafleh city at the cost of JD 2.5 million. It said that the sewerage network will be connected to all homes in the city (Petra).

GERMAN EXHIBITION: A week-long cultural event was opened at Goethe Institute in Amman Tuesday, during which several lectures will be delivered on archaeological excavations in Jordan with the help of West German teams. The event was inaugurated by Minister of Culture and National Heritage Mohammad Hammouri who opened an exhibition of photographs and maps of archaeological sites in the country (Petra).

BANI KANANA BUILDING PROJECTS: The Municipal and Rural Affairs Department in the Bani Kanana district has completed work on a number of road and public building projects at the cost of JD 102,000. The department director said that work is expected to be completed on school buildings and other roads within the district in the coming month (Petra).

ARAB ENGINEERS' MEETING: Jordan is taking part in a three-day meeting held by the Arab Engineers Federation. Delegates will submit 17 working papers dealing with various aspects of engineering as well as cooperation among Arab unions and the emigration of Arab engineers (Petra).

CIVIL DEFENCE: Two training courses on civil defence opened at Ajloun Tuesday with the participation of 60 men and women teachers. The courses will last one month during which the participants will do practical work in emergency operations and civil defence work (Petra).

BOOK EXHIBITION: Yarmouk University President Dr. Mohammad Hamdan Tuesday opened a seven-day book exhibition on sports and Olympic games, which is organised in cooperation with the American Cultural Centre in Amman. Hamdan Monday opened a four-day exhibition by Sonia Delaunay at Yarmouk University (Petra).

FRIENDS OF ARCHAEOLOGY: The Friends of Archaeology announce that the lecture by John Oleson on recent research on the Humayma water system has been postponed from Tuesday, Oct. 18, until Monday, Oct. 31, at 7:00 p.m. The Friends of Archaeology will also have to trip to Lahun Friday, Oct. 21, at 8:30 a.m. from Amra Hotel (Petra).

LECTEUR FRANCOPHONES

Vous trouverez demain en page 5 "Le Jourdain", page d'informations en français que le Jordan Times publiera désormais tous les jeudis.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. The readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ Book exhibition at the Khansar Secondary School in Madaba.
- ★ Photo exhibition at the Soviet Cultural Centre.
- ★ An art exhibition entitled "Bait Al 'Arabi," by Hana Sadik Beraudo, at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ Art exhibition by Sonia Delaunay, at Yarmouk University.
- ★ Book exhibition: "Individual, Sport and Olympic Games," at the Deanship of Students Affairs, Yarmouk University.
- ★ Children's book exhibition, at the Women's Cultural, Social and Sports Club, Amman.
- ★ Exhibition: Photographs and maps of archaeological sites, at the Goethe Institute.
- ★ Social Security Corporation exhibits books, charts, bulletins and reports on its activities, at the Housing Bank Complex.

FILM

- ★ Iraqi documentary film "The Iraqi Houses," at the Royal Cultural Centre — 7:00 p.m.

Islamic academy takes part in agricultural conference

AMMAN (Petra) — The Amman-based Islamic Academy of Sciences (IAS) is taking part in an Islamic agriculture ministers conference being held in the Pakistani capital of Islamabad to which it will submit a working paper tackling the employment of science and technology to ensure food security for the Islamic World, IAS Director General Hani Al Mulqi was quoted as saying here Tuesday.

He said that the IAS prepared the working paper in response to a call by the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) during last year's meeting held in Turkey and in the light of an OIC meeting held in Amman.

Mulqi said that the paper deals with the deteriorating food security situation in the Islamic World and proper measures that should be taken to bridge the gap between consumption and production.

The paper, Mulqi said, requests the Islamic nation to adopt a long-term strategy for ensuring food supplies for the Islamic World until the year 2000 and to establish cooperation among research centres operating in Islamic countries to help achieve that goal.

JVA distributes housing units to local inhabitants

KARAK (Petra) — The Jordan Valley Authority (JVA) will distribute plots of land and housing units to local inhabitants in the southern Jordan Valley region before the end of 1988, according to Karak Governor Mohammad Shobaki.

Shobaki made the announcement during his tour of Ghof Al Safi and Ghof Mazraah.

The JVA is currently finalising a study on the distribution of

lands and units before distribution can start, Shobaki said.

The governor, who met with the heads of local councils and heard their demands and views about public services, said that government departments were taking measures to improve water, electricity and telephone services.

The JVA is currently finalising a study on the distribution of

Committee to study land transport

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Transport and Telecommunications Khaled Al Haj Hassan has set up a committee to study the process of transporting goods by Jordanian and foreign trucks from the Kingdom to destinations abroad.

The committee which will hold its first meeting on Saturday groups the representatives of the

ministries of Transport, Industry and Trade as well as the Public Security Department, the Customs Department, the Jordan-Syria Land Transport Company, the Iraq-Jordan Land Transport Company, the Amman Chamber of Industry, the Amman Chamber of Commerce, and the unions of trucks and clearing offices in Jordan.

Ministry of Transport officials said Tuesday that new arrangements have been worked out to organise the travel of Jordanian trucks via the Aqaba-Nweibeh land-sea route.

They said that special entry permit books have been supplied to Jordanian truck drivers to enable them to commute between the two terminals.

PSD catches last of Bashiti killers

By Ahmad Kreishan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Public Security Department (PSD) Tuesday announced the capture of four accomplices who had planned and carried out the murder of Muhieddin Al Bashiti in July last year.

Haj Hassan calls for Arab maritime fleet

AMMAN (Petra) — Transport and Telecommunications Minister Khaled Al Haj Hassan Tuesday called for massing Arab efforts to build an Arab maritime fleet that contributes to building Arab economic security and attaining pan-Arab aspirations.

He pointed out that Arab fleets do not carry more than 4 per cent of the exported and imported goods in the Arab World. "This implies spending millions of dollars to ensure this duty," he said.

During a meeting with the chairman and the board of directors of the Arab Academy for Maritime Transport (AAMT) Tuesday, he said: "We, in Jordan, have full confidence that the AAMT plays its role in preparing the cadres necessary for bolstering the sector of Arab maritime transport."

Stressing that the AAMT succeeded in surmounting all the problems it faced, he said that in order to enable the AAMT fulfill its duties we must provide it with moral and financial support.

Bashiti, a Jordanian money changer, was shot dead in the Jabal Hussein area on July 6, 1987 as he was leaving home for work, carrying about JD 100,000 in Jordanian and foreign currency which the murderers stole.

Ghawanmeh had been sentenced in absentia to life imprisonment with hard labour by the military court which also sentenced two of his accomplices to death.

Ghawanmeh had taken active part in planning and executing the murder along with Ahmad Salem, Naser Ali and Ahmad Shtawi.

According to the PSD, Ghawanmeh did not go along with the murderers till the end because, he

said, that he lost confidence in them.

But Ghawanmeh later began to threaten the three accomplices and succeeded through blackmail in obtaining sums of money to remain silent.

Following the arrest of the three accomplices last year, Ghawanmeh fled the country but the security authorities finally succeeded in capturing him during investigation of a drug trafficking case.

They said that Ghawanmeh had assumed four different identities, one of which was Mohammad Ghawanmeh, but that his real name was Ali Ibrahim Khalil Al Jahalin.

According to the officials, the police succeeded also in capturing

Suleiman Salem Al Khudeirat who had been wanted for his involvement in the murder of Mahmoud Oatwneh one and half years ago.

Khudeirat had escaped seven months ago from a mental hospital in Jordan where he had been admitted after showing signs of insanity.

After his escape, Khudeirat worked at a number of places in the country, finally settling at Athruh where he stole the identity card of his employer and stuck his own photograph on it to facilitate his movements, the officials said.

According to PSD officials Khudeirat admitted to his crimes and has now been referred to the criminal court.



Housing Bank exhibition opens

A three-day exhibition featuring the Housing Bank's various operations in Jordan was opened at the Housing Bank's centre in Amman Tuesday. The exhibition which was organised to mark the 10th anniversary of the Social Security Corporation (SSC) was opened by Minister of Labour Marwan Dufin in his capacity as the

corporation's board chairman. On display are plates, data charts, reports and pamphlets as well as books featuring social security laws and regulations and providing information on services to the SSC's 488,000 beneficiaries employed by 6,000 institutions and organisations in the Kingdom. (Petra photo)

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Weak ploy

ISRAELI leaders have offered assorted responses to the Palestinian uprising, ranging from collective punishments and mass detentions to increased use of lethal weapons against rock-throwing Palestinian children. Now, it seems, the Labour Party is trying a new tactic by promising the Palestinians elections of local representatives for future peace talks. The gesture is not very promising because of its transparent desire to quell the uprising by offering false carrots in place of the ineffective stick which Israel has applied throughout the past eleven months.

The Palestinians living under Israeli occupation are not struggling for local elections. They are struggling for their national rights. They do not need to choose local leadership. They have a very clear leadership in the combination of indigenous, grass-roots heads of social, political and community organisations, and the PLO itself, which is recognised as the sole legitimate Palestinian leadership by the whole Arab World and by most of the rest of the world. The fact is, Israel has imprisoned, detained, expelled or killed the majority of the indigenous Palestinian leaders. If the Labour Party is so keen to have Palestinian leaders to negotiate with, all it has to do is allow the 1,500 Palestinians it has deported since 1967 to return to their homes in Palestine, and to free the thousands of Palestinians it has herded into detention camps.

The problem is not one of representation. It is a problem that Israel perpetuates by not recognising the right of the Palestinians to national self-determination. The ploy of holding out the carrot of elections is just that: a ploy, and a pretty weak one at that. If the Labour offer were coupled with a declaration recognising the Palestinian right to national self-determination, the Palestinian response would probably be quite positive. In its present form, the Labour offer is insignificant, diversionary and irrelevant.



Rabah — Al Ra'i

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i Arabic daily commented once again on Prime Minister Zaid Rifai's statements on Jordan Television Sunday evening by saying they were clear and did not need any more explanation. But it said it is a matter of serious importance that Jordanian citizens interact with these statements and follow guidelines set by the government in the coming stage which would require austere measures in spending. It is important for Jordanians to know that what they must build is Jordan itself and not create rich people; which implies we have to give more to what we take and do all we can not only for today but also for tomorrow, the paper said. It said that national belonging is represented in the individual's hard work for the benefit of the whole society which in turn offers benefits to all individuals.

Al Dustour daily also dwelt on the same subject for the second day. It described the prime minister's statements as a message to all Jordanians that their country has now embarked on a new phase to adapt to the prevailing economic conditions that has been affecting the whole Middle East region. The series of economic, financial and monetary measures in the Kingdom reflect this fact and make it imperative on all citizens and various sectors to adapt to the new situation, the paper added. The paper repeated Rifai's statement about the failure of Arab countries to honour their financial commitments to Jordan, and said this failure is responsible for Jordan's foreign debts and the dwindling foreign currency reserves which resulted in the deficit in the budget.

Sawt Al Shaab daily commented on His Majesty King Hussein's instructions to the National Medical Institution (NMI) to double its efforts in health services. The King has in fact charted a strategy for the NMI, guiding it towards the year 2,000 and entrusting it with dealing the process of combating diseases, improving health services and upgrading the standards of health workers at all levels, the paper said. King Hussein, added the paper, is showing keen concern over medical services for all Jordanians and is thus taking personal interest in directing the NMI which embodies such services to embark on a new era of highly improved medical care for citizens.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARY

Calling on Arabs

Sawt Al Shaab Arabic daily commented on a new trend in Lebanon's policies manifested in its political parties' refusal to deal with foreign mediators and in seeking assistance from Arab countries to end the country's numerous problems. The Lebanese warring militias have now asked the U.S. administration to stop tampering with Lebanon's internal affairs and its mediation for the election of a new president, the paper's columnist Salameh Ukur writes. He says that the Lebanese seem to have been fed up with unfruitful mediation efforts carried out by Washington which proved to be insincere and not serious in its endeavour. We are happy to see the Lebanese leaders now turning their attention to Arab mediators seeking their assistance in finding a solution for the presidential crisis and ending the Lebanese people's sufferings, Ukur notes. The writer says: It now remains for the Arab countries to see whether they can and will extend a helping hand to their brothers.

By Rayna Moss

BEFORE agreeing to take me on the ten minute ride to Abu Kabir detention centre, a few kilometres from Tel Aviv's industrial centre, the taxi driver questions me about the reasons for my going there. "What kind of friends do you have that get mixed up with the law?" he asks. His apprehension is common — Abu Kabir is synonymous with crime, the underworld, prostitutes rounded up over the weekend. The name is made even more ominous by the nearby forensic medicine centre bearing the same name. But since the intifada, political prisoners are also being held there: Administrative detainees, some awaiting trial, some whose legal status is unclear.

When I arrive it is still early, but one family is already waiting for their weekly visit: Two women, a young man and three small children, the family of Munira Daoud, the woman whose brother was killed by Israeli settlers in Beita and is now in detention awaiting trial for supposedly wounding the guard of the provocative "children's outing." She has been repeatedly transferred, each time without her family being informed of her whereabouts. Last week they spent an entire day going from prison to prison, directed by guards who assured them each time that she was certainly at Neve Tirza, or Jalama, or ... Now

they have ascertained that she is indeed present, and all that is left for them is to wait for the guards to allow them in.

While waiting, a family may ask for a package to be given to the prisoner. Some articles, such as limited clothing, a sheet, towel, paperback book and one newspaper, may be brought from outside. But cigarettes, sweets, batteries for radios, coffee and tea, soap, etc. may only be purchased at the prison canteen. Although the prices are tax free, the process is humiliating. The barred window through which a visitor can order purchases is a few inches above ground level. One must crouch or bend double in order to speak to the person seated in the canteen, ask for different articles, not always visible, and give him the articles

brought from home. The mother of a criminal prisoner tries to get two sheets in the package, saying that her son uses one as a cover. "You should let him suffer a bit, so he won't come back here," is the reply, and she uses the tip of the rejected sheet to wipe her tears.

The Palestinian families do not beg or plead, but are also frustrated by the ever-changing rules of the prison. Last week, they were told that only glass could not be allowed in. Now the prison officials forbid pencils, reject a nail clipper. Some visitors were turned away last time, when the guards said that only two visitors were allowed to each prisoner. Now they say each prisoner is allowed three visitors, from her immediate family.

The one bench placed in the

yard seats four. The rest of us spread newspapers on the pavement, wherever shade can be found. There are no toilets outside, and visitors may not use those inside the prison. The nearest kiosk for cold drinks is a ten minute walk away, but no one wants to risk being away when called for a visit. The Palestinians settle down to wait, unpacking sandwiches, drinks, fresh fruit. Although a large sign on the steel gate proclaims that visits are between 8-11, there is no guarantee that they will not be forced to wait for hours. Those wishing to contact their relatives earlier, can try standing on the hill beyond the prison wall and shouting. Sometimes, this is successful. A young man screams "Ramadan! Ramadan!" until a voice answers him. "My brother, how are you?"

We paid 100 dinars for a lawyer, you'll see him soon. I'm buying you cigarettes and candy now. God will help us get you out." It seems that Ramadan has been arrested for not having a sleeping permit in Israel, or some other trivial "crime." This is the first time anyone in the family has been detained, and the brother outside is frightened and upset. Other visitors help him out, ordering his purchases in Hebrew and calming him down. "He's in for two days and you're like this? That's nothing, be strong; here, we'll get nice cakes for him."

It is almost noon when the gates open for the Palestinian visitors. At first they are called to the main gate, where Jewish visitors have entered all morning. Then they are told to go to the side gate. The prisoners' names

are called, each identity is checked. A woman without an ID card is not allowed in. Another is a cousin, not immediate family — ont. One woman is accompanying two small children. Her sister-in-law, the children's mother, has been in detention for three months awaiting trial and has not seen her children yet, due to bureaucratic mistakes and intentional denial. Minutes after they are let in, they are sent out again: The children must be accompanied by an adult, but this aunt's name does not appear on the list. Another aunt has been imprisoned in the past, and therefore is not allowed to visit. The children's father is under administrative detention. The guards reject any argument, they have orders from "above." The children grab the bars on the window, calling their mother's name. After a lawyer intervenes, they are finally allowed inside. They have waited for over two hours.

Coming out of the church gate, the visitors blink as if they have come out of a cinema. The prisoners have been informed that a demonstration for their release was held some days ago, by Israeli women, and they have sent greetings and thanks for packages they have been receiving. Also relieved are the West Bank taxi drivers. We lose a whole day just waiting, they grumble — Middle East International, London.



Waleed — Al Dustour

'There is no difference between Christian and Muslim'

Editor's Note: The Palestinian Human Rights Information Centre (PHRIC) in Jerusalem has been publishing an "uprising update," which aims to clarify the existing human rights situation as it develops in the occupied territories, as the uprising entered its eleventh month. The information bulletin is distributed in cooperation with the Database Project on Palestinian Human Rights, whose international office is in Chicago. These updates are being published in the Jordan Times as they are received. Included in these information bulletins are lists of those killed during the uprising, as confirmed by the International Committee of the Red Cross, lists of detainees, and updated human rights reports as they develop. While some sources and background material is publicly available, most of the information comes from first reports, fieldworker visits to hospitals, refugee camps, towns and villages, and from working relationship between the PHRIC and other institutions in the occupied territories. The material is collected and verified in Jerusalem and sent to Chicago, where the updates are produced and distributed internationally.

THREE hundred nineteen Palestinians had died in connection to the intifada as of July 28: 214 from shooting; 59 from tear gas; 20 from beating, burning, electrocution and stoning; and 26 in related or ambiguous circumstances. Thirty-three of them have died since June 25, an average of one a day. This is a sharp increase over recent weeks, especially sharp since the end of the first week in July. Most of these deaths are from shooting. There are a number of cases in which people have been killed by three or more bullets. Three of the martyrs during this period were Christian, bringing the total number of Christian intifada martyrs to five. "This shows there is no

difference between Christian and Muslim," said a Muslim shopkeeper in the Old City of Jerusalem. "We are the same."

The mortality rate from shootings has varied during the course of the uprising. Until mid-March, the announced policy of the Israeli army was to shoot only when soldiers perceived their lives to be in danger. The policy was supposed to include firing into the air, tear gas, rubber bullets, and then, as a last resort, live ammunition directed at demonstrators. The killings that occurred were almost always announced as having taken place according to that procedure, even when massive eyewitness evidence contradicted such asser-

tions, even when Palestinians had clearly been killed by sniper bullets. That shooting has not been a means of self defence for the Israeli army is clear from the difference in rate of shooting deaths between the West Bank and Gaza. Between December 9 and January 15, of the 39 people shot to death 27 were from Gaza. Between January 15 and February 10 one was killed by shooting. In February 36 people were shot to death; 2 of them from Gaza. In March, 43 people were shot to death; 4 of them from Gaza. Between April 1 and April 14, 20 people were shot to death, 4 of them in Gaza. Between April 15 and 17, 18 people were shot to death; 12 of them from Gaza. The population of Gaza in relation to the West Bank has obviously remained constant during this period; the comparative rate of protest between the two areas has also remained relatively stable. The comparative rate of death from tear gas has also been constant. Yet in February, March and the beginning of April the death rate from shooting in Gaza was markedly lower than the death rate from shooting in the West Bank. This largely but not completely coincided with the period during which injuries from beating in Gaza were far more multiple than injuries from beat-

ings in the West Bank. And for two weeks in January the Israeli army managed not to kill anyone at all with bullets. What controls the rate of deaths by shooting is clearly neither the intensity of protest nor any perceived need for the soldiers to defend themselves.

In the middle of March, Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin announced a policy whereby anyone seen to be throwing molotovs or other suspicious objects could be shot. Settlers were also explicitly permitted to shoot to kill. That this has resulted in a virtual open season on Palestinians can be seen from the figures. In the second half of March the death rate from shooting was practically triple that of the first two weeks (31 as opposed to 12). Between March 15 and April 7, 44 people were shot to death. By April 18, the total number dead from shooting had reached 159. On April 16, following the assassination of Abu Jihad, 13 people were killed by shooting; two more shot on the 16th died of their wounds the next day.

Serious injuries

Estimates of the number of reported serious injuries ranged at about 2000 as of the end of January, but these estimates represent only a small portion of the number of people actually injured. A group of American physicians visiting the territories in February estimated the total number of injuries as perhaps 33,000 on the West Bank and 5,000 in Gaza. In general, Palestinians do not want knowledge of their injuries known, if at all possible, to prevent subsequent arrest. Medical treatment is also decentralised and record keeping incomplete. Checking on number of injuries has been hampered further by the imposition of curfews, preventing entry and exit to many sites. One medical relief committee estimates that it has seen some 12,000 people since the uprising began.

Tear gas-related deaths

The exact cause of tear gas-related deaths is uncertain. It could be the deprivation of oxygen or the effect of the gas on blood circulation places a strain on sectors of the population at risk: Infants, pregnant women and their unborn babies, old people, persons with respiratory or heart conditions. It may also be the result of toxins released (e.g., cyanide) when the chemicals break down. Types CS and CN tear gas, which are in use, are lethal in high concentrations, especially in enclosed spaces. CS powder enters the respiratory system and lodges in blood cells, fatty tissues, and mucus membranes. Also the powder can stick to the skin and cause burning and welts on the body. Warnings against the use in enclosed spaces are on the tear gas canisters; nonetheless the gas continues to be used in high concentrations in enclosed areas.

Intrauterine fetal mortality

This table does not include information on intrauterine fetal deaths among women in the last trimester of pregnancy who have been exposed to high concentrations of tear gas. While the exact number of these deaths is unknown (many occur when people are under curfew and cannot obtain medical aid; these deaths remain unreported) physicians estimate that in Gaza alone, as of the end of February, there had been at least 80 fetal deaths. On the night of March 7-8 alone, 11 fetal deaths were reported among women in four Gaza refugee camps. While hard epidemiological evidence is lacking, some significant connection between the tear gas and the stillbirths seems clear. UNRWA is currently involved in a systematic study of the problem.

Huge increase in drug deaths prompts Italy to toughen law

By Jill Serjeant
Reuter

ROME — When Italian youngsters went back to their classes last month after the long summer holidays, police with sniffer dogs were waiting outside the schools.

The police were looking for drug pushers and they found them. A total of 113 were arrested nationwide in the first week of the school term. Outside an exclusive private school in Rome two pushers were caught carrying 100 doses of heroin.

The schools narcotics-watch was prompted by mounting alarm over the rising number of young people dying from drug addiction.

Deaths from heroin and cocaine overdoses shot up by 76 per cent to 530 in 1987 and drugs have already claimed 500 lives this year. Ten years ago only 40 people died annually.

The drugs explosion also has frightening implications for the spread of AIDS.

Italy has the highest number of AIDS sufferers in Europe after France, and a senior specialist, Professor Donato Greco, said recently the country would have 26,000 patients by the end of 1990 — 65 per cent of them drug addicts.

Officials are largely at a loss to explain the huge increase in drug deaths but have responded with a revision of Italy's narcotics laws for the first time in 13 years.

The revised law, due to be presented to the cabinet later this month, proposes doubling prison sentences for those caught selling drugs to the under 14s and life imprisonment for major traffickers.

"We are facing a real emergen-

cy... The present (1975) law is out of date. It was passed at a time when heroin was unknown in many parts of the country while now we are invaded by it," said Special Affairs Minister Rosa Russo Jervolino.

At the other end of the spectrum, the drugs crisis has revived debate in Italy on whether the sale and use of narcotics should be legalised on the grounds that prohibition merely stimulates both crime and demand.

However, few of those who work with addicts expect the legal changes to make much impact on the queues of young people knocking at their doors for help, and more worryingly, those who show no desire to kick the habit.

Italy has an estimated 500,000 addicts, double the number four years ago, but only 30,000 are registered for therapy.

"You don't change a young person's feeling of being alone, frustrated and unfulfilled through a law," Juan Corelli, a director of the Italian Solidarity Centre, a support group for drug addicts, told Reuters.

The age at which youngsters first become involved with drugs is dropping steadily to the early teens and parents are adopting desperate measures to prevent their children falling victim to addiction.

In Naples the "Mothers of Courage" group formed three years ago, report their own drug addict sons and daughters to police.

In Rome and Milan private detectives report a steady flow of calls from worried parents, while in a highly-publicised case last month a como couple chained their 20-year-old daughter to a sofa for a week in an effort to

wean her away from heroin. They were given a suspended three-month jail sentence for holding the girl against her will.

Baby-pushers

Italy's large mafia and organised crime networks thrive on cocaine and heroin trafficking. In the slums of Naples, police say at least 50 "baby-pushers" under the age of 10 and thus out of the reach of the law are being used by gangsters to sell drugs or act as couriers.

The new law is expected to sanction the use of undercover agents to infiltrate narcotics networks and will allow investigators to use a law aimed at fighting the mafia to probe the financial transactions of suspected traffickers.

The updated law will also switch the focus on the treatment of addicts away from the free administration of substitute drugs like methadone in favour of education campaigns and the encouragement of self-help groups.

While welcoming the prospect of stiffer punishments for suppliers, few of those working with addicts believe the new law can tackle the problem of demand.

The Rome Solidarity Centre works with some 850 youngsters and their families to help addicts discover why they first turned to narcotics and how to change their lives.

Corelli sees drug addiction as largely rooted in the social and economic changes which have swept Italy in the past 10 years, transforming it into one of the West's leading industrial nations but bringing all the problems associated with industrialisation, alienation and high unemployment.

Like the vast majority of those who work with addicts, he is scathing about the debate on the legalisation of narcotics.

"It is a very bourgeois idea. It is something thought up by the rich who think it will stop addicts burgling their homes and snatching their jewellery to pay for heroin."

"It would just make taking drugs easier," Corelli said.

By Frances D'Amico
The Associated Press

LEPTIS MAGNA — One of the world's greatest ancient cities has been severely damaged by a little-reported flood, and lovers of Libyan archaeology are appealing to the world to help them with repairs.

Last November, after several days of heavy rain, a dam overran in a river valley three miles from Leptis Magna, sending a torrent of water rushing over much of the archaeological treasures of the once glorious Roman metropolis on the Mediterranean coast.

The rampaging river carried tonnes of dirt and uprooted trees and brush through the ruins, leaving yards of deep mud in such remarkable areas as a basilica, one of the two forums and hot and cold baths dedicated in 126-127 A.D. to Emperor Hadrian.

Most heavily damaged is the colonnaded street, a 400-yard long road that links the bath complex to the ancient port. The stone carriage way, once lined more than 200 columns, was a well-served stretch that led toward the sparkling blue sea.

But much of the path broke up under the weight of the floodwaters, which lasted three days before they started to recede. After the flood, the port end of the street disappeared and is now covered by a small river. Toward the city, the path is a jumble of stone blocks and columns displaced by the waters.

Sandro Stucchi, an Italian archaeologist who surveyed the site, estimated restoration would cost \$33 million and take 10 years.

Omar S. Almaghbi, superintendent of the archaeological district that includes Leptis Magna, said the Libyan government is hoping to get help from UNESCO, the United Nations cultural organisation.

"We want to make an appeal to all people who love monuments," said Almaghbi, looking forlornly at the weeds sprouting from the base of the basilica's pulpit, covered with several inches of sun-baked dirt.

"We are boping for a world-

Ancient Roman city damaged in little-reported flood

dwide intervention," said Almaghbi, who was born in Leptis and is the son of the site's caretaker. Libya would provide the personnel to do manual work but it doesn't have the technical expertise, he added.

Bekaddour Ouldali of UNESCO in Paris said the organisation has asked Italy to provide funds for a supervisor for the restoration, preferably Stucchi, and has provided earth-removal equipment and a pump to quickly remove waters should a flood strike again.

An Italian foreign ministry official, Manfredi Incisa, says his government is willing to help but is waiting for a more detailed report from UNESCO before deciding on funding.

Little is known outside Libya about the disaster.

Such scanty knowledge would have been unthinkable had the flood struck, say, Ostia Antica, an ancient city outside Rome that compares in size and splendour to Leptis Magna.

But Libya's magnificent archaeological inheritance is not easily seen.

Tourism doesn't exist. A recent summer Tuesday brought only about a dozen visitors to Leptis Magna, 75 miles from Tripoli. Almost all of them were foreign diplomatic, construction or oil employees.

Almaghbi said the staff has done what it can, such as clearing the mud-clogged decumans road, a stretch of an ancient strategic road that led from Leptis to what is now Tunisia.

Italians began scientific excavation of the sprawling city about 1912, shortly after occupation of Libya by modern Rome.

The flood halted dreams for extensive excavation of the harbour, considered one of the best

preserved in the ancient Roman world and expected to yield many relics from Leptis' beginnings as a key Phoenician port and later a prosperous Roman city.

Before the disaster, archaeologists had hopes of restoring some of the columns along the road to the sea, with their white marble capitals decorated with designs of lotuses.

The market with its kiosks and stone measuring devices, the theatre and old forum were spared the wrath of the flood.

Leptis was founded by seagoing Phoenicians from Lebanon, early in the first millennium B.C. as a trading post and probably formally established as a colony about the 7th or 6th century B.C.

Merchants there did a brisk business in ivory, ebony, slaves, gold and precious stones from Africa.

The city eventually was dominated by Carthage, and then, with Rome's victory in the Punic Wars, became part of the Roman world.

Granite was imported from Egypt, marble came from Italy and limestone and sandstone were quarried locally to create the city's market places, memorials, gyms and baths.

Leptis particularly prospered during the reign of Emperor Septimius Severus, who was born there and whose arch of triumph greets visitors.

With the decline of the empire, Leptis suffered raids from desert tribes and eventually succumbed to the Vandals, Byzantine rule and finally Arab rule.

Its name could derive from a Phoenician combination *li* and *bada* meaning town at the edge of the desert. Magna "great" in Latin, has been added to distinguish it from another Leptis in Tunisia.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

King Fahd warns against satellite broadcasts

RIYADH (R) — King Fahd of Saudi Arabia warned Muslims Monday that the spread of satellite technology carried the danger of increased exposure to harmful foreign broadcasts. "The king reiterated the need to jointly face a foreign media invasion in the field of satellites," a statement quoted the king as telling a cabinet meeting. "He warned of the dangers of the invasion to our Arab and Muslim societies and traditions and the harm it will have on our new generations," said the statement carried by the Saudi Press Agency. In most Arab states special government approval is needed to install dishes capable of picking up television broadcasts beamed down by satellite.

Bomb explodes outside Sharon's home

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — A bomb exploded near an Israeli paramilitary police patrol Monday night outside the home of Trade Minister Ariel Sharon in Jerusalem's walled Old City. No one was injured. The police fired in the dark in the direction the bomb was thrown from and later found blood stains. Ten people were arrested. The incident took place in the Muslim quarter, where Sharon moved last December to demonstrate the right of Jews to live anywhere in Jerusalem. Arab and Jewish critics accuse him of provocation.

Sharon discusses trade prospects in Hungary

BUDAPEST, Hungary (AP) — Israel's Trade and Industry Minister Ariel Sharon, at the end of a six-day visit to Hungary, Monday said trade talks and cooperation will pave the way for re-establishing diplomatic relations. Following an unofficial visit to Hungary, Israeli Premier Yitzhak Shamir said upon return to Israel on Sept. 15, the two countries had agreed to gradually restore diplomatic ties severed after the 1967 Middle East war. "We think no one gained from the situation that existed for 21 years, in fact everyone lost when diplomatic ties were broken off," Sharon told the Associated Press.

Wrestling declared off limits for Muslim fans

RIYADH (R) — A leading Saudi cleric said Monday that Muslims should not watch wrestling matches because the athletes reveal too much flesh. "The wrestlers are naked and so (women) should not watch wrestling. As for men, watching it is strongly loathed and detested," said Sheikh Saleh Al Sadlan, replying to readers' queries in Okaz newspaper. He also said that when engaged to be married a woman should have a chaperone when speaking to her fiancé on the telephone. "The conversation should be on important subjects... and a (relative) of the fiancée should sit with her during the telephone conversation," wrote Sadlan, a member of the highest Saudi Arabian authority on Islamic law. Professional wrestling is very popular in Gulf Arab

states and state-owned Saudi Arabian television carries a weekly programme of U.S. matches.

'Afghan rebel rocket attack kills three'

ISLAMABAD (R) — A second rebel rocket attack on the eastern Afghan town of Jalalabad in two days killed three people and wounded five, the official Kabul Radio said Monday. The radio, monitored in Islamabad, said a number of houses were damaged by 23 surface-to-surface missiles fired Sunday morning on residential areas of three districts of Jalalabad, capital of Nangarhar province bordering Pakistan.

Rains heighten fears about locust invasion

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (AP) — Rainfall along the western coast of Saudi Arabia Monday afternoon heightened concern about the locust swarms that began hitting the kingdom last week. Selim Banesleh, director-general of the Locust Research Centre, a division of the Saudi Ministry of Agriculture, said the rain could mean that the almost mature locusts have found favourable conditions for breeding. The insects must have wet soil to lay their eggs, which hatch out in about 15 days. The locust swarms have spread along 1,000 kilometres of the Saudi coast since their arrival Thursday from Sudan and Ethiopia. "This is the worst invasion we've seen for the past 25 years," said Banesleh.

Israel bans The Last Temptation

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israel's theatre and film censorship board Monday banned the controversial "The Last Temptation of Christ" from Israeli screens, saying the movie could hurt the feelings of Christian believers in the Holy Land. Yehoshua Justman, chairman of the 27-member board, said the decision was made by the majority of the 27 members present at the meeting. "The Last Temptation" focuses on the foundations of Christian faith. Justman said in an interview. "The board is convinced that if screened, the film would hurt the beliefs of the Christian community."

Ben-Gurion wanted to send troops to Korean war

TEL AVIV (AP) — Former Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion wanted to send Israeli troops to assist U.S. forces fighting in the Korean war but was overruled by other members of the fledgling state's cabinet, according to documents published Monday. The 786-page compendium of foreign policy papers said Ben-Gurion proposed sending a force of volunteer troops to South Korea in 1950 to help the embattled Americans repel invading North Korean troops. In urging Israel to heed a United Nations call for reinforcements, Ben-Gurion said that as a "past victim of aggression" Israel could not afford to watch idly as others repelled the North Korean invaders, according to segments of the documents published in the daily Jerusalem Post.

Cypriot leaders agree to continue talks

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — The leaders of the war-divided Greek and Turkish Cypriot communities agreed Monday to continue their talks and to review progress with the U.N. secretary-general in New York next month.

A United Nations official announcement said President George Vassiliou, the Greek Cypriot leader, and Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denktash are to confer with Javier Perez de Cuellar in Cyprus on the U.N. secretary-general, under whose auspices the talks are conducted. He said his meetings with Vassiliou last month had brought the

again on Tuesday, the announcement said.

The announcement dispelled uncertainty over the future of the talks following a warning over the weekend by Denktash he would end the talks if Vassiliou continued his foreign state visits.

Denktash repeated his warning on arrival for the morning meeting at the residence of Oscar Camillion, the special representative in Cyprus of the U.N. secretary-general, under whose auspices the talks are conducted. He said his meetings with Vassiliou last month had brought the

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

PLO scoffs at Labour proposal for elections

(Continued from page 1)
and declared: "There will never be a Palestinian state."
Shamir told the foreign press association that if Likud won the general election, Palestinians would be allowed to vote only after agreement was reached on "autonomy" for the occupied territories.
Prominent Palestinians in the occupied territories also rejected the Labour plan.
"I think this is an absurd idea," said Sari Nusseibeh, a philosophy professor. "If they want someone

to negotiate with there is no need for elections, there is the PLO. "It is a first step toward bypassing Palestinian self-determination, not towards recognising it." Hanna Siniara, editor of the Arabic Al Fajr daily, said the plan was a "positive element" but was a step backward to the last elections, held in 1976. Israel eventually ousted most elected mayors for anti-Israeli political activity.
Meanwhile, the Israeli supreme court barred U.S.-born rabbi Meir Kahane from running in the Nov. 1 election, saying his anti-Arab Kach movement is racist. The ruling was expected to benefit the Likud.
An angry Kahane, speaking at a news conference, urged backers to boycott the vote. One agitated activist tore up his Israeli ID card needed for voting, scuffled with hystanders and then fainted.
Also Tuesday, the court ruled that the Progressive List for Peace, which calls for a Palestinian state alongside Israel, could compete in the elections. The Likud had demanded the party's ouster for allegedly seeking to destroy Israel's Jewish character.

Israeli troops kill three Palestinians

(Continued from page 1)
helped to ignite the Palestinian uprising.
A report issued by the Data Base Project said Palestinian population in the West Bank and Gaza had risen 75 per cent since 1967 — from 973,227 to 1,701,435. It said 69,506 Jews now lived in settlements in the occupied territories.
Senior Israeli sources told Reuters they agreed with Benvenisti's estimates.
Benvenisti said Israel had not carried out a census in the occupied territories since just after it occupied them in 1967, although it had conducted three surveys in Israel since then.
The Data Base Project also issued a study by Israeli lawyer Carmel Shalev accusing Israel of systematically violating Palesti-

nians' human rights and applying a double standard of justice for Arabs and Jews.
In her study, Shalev said violence between the settlers and Palestinians had escalated.
She contrasted the cases of an Jerusalem Arab, jailed for 10 years for throwing a petrol bomb, and an Israeli settler, jailed for two years after killing an Arab boy in Nablus.

Dozens of Hamas activists detained in sweep

(Continued from page 1)
For the first time, the leaflets appeared first in the West Bank, a sign that there have been fewer arrests there.
Yassin, imprisoned in 1984-5 for stocking weapons, said he believed he escaped arrest only because he was confined to a wheelchair and "it would look very bad in the foreign media."
Those arrested include one of his closest associates, Dr. Ibrahim Yazuri, head of the Islamic bloc that Yassin founded in 1970.
The organisation, close to the Egyptian Muslim Brotherhood, runs mosques, libraries, sports clubs and infant schools.
Yazuri's family says he has been jailed for six months without trial. His deputy, Mohammad Shemah, a school teacher and preacher in the Sha'bi refugee camp, was also arrested.
The acting president of

Gaza's Islamic University, Adnan Mohammad Al Kazaz, said at least 10 faculty and administration members had been arrested. Most were also mosque preachers.
"For the first time the Israeli authorities have concentrated on the religious trend," said Abdul Halim Ashkar, the university's spokesman. "The nature of the conflict is becoming clearer. It is a religious conflict."

Sudan needs \$1½ b urgently

By Dalia Baligh
The Associated Press

KHARTOUM (R) — Sudan is working with the United Nations and the World Bank to come up with almost \$1½ billion urgently needed for millions of hungry people displaced by floods war or both.

U.N. officials Monday said current plans call for a combination of donations and loans, including a loan package of more than \$400 million.

One immediate worldwide appeal for donations will be for up to \$50 million to care for 2 million southerners set adrift by Sudan's 5-year-old civil war.

"We are preparing a United Nations appeal document... to draw the attention of the international donors to the plight of the displaced people," said Bryan Wannop, resident representative of the U.N. Development Programme.

He said the project was \$40 million to \$50 million.

The biggest loan package in the works was presented Monday by experts from the Washington-based World Bank. It's a two-year programme worth \$417 million to reconstruct and repair damage left by floods in August and September that destroyed

Fighting in the countryside has forced them to abandon their civilisation of crops and cattle-rearing, trek to government-controlled cities and subsist on relief food.

War or weather often makes it impossible to get the needed food in.

Western relief officials say there are a million southerners in and around Khartoum, about 350,000 in western Ethiopia and half a million in the rest of Sudan.

Among the worst off are about 150,000 in southern Kordofan and Darfur, western areas just north of the battle zone. An estimated 10,000 are estimated to have starved there during the summer.

The tragedy there has prompted \$1 million in aid from the U.S. Agency for International Development to the small village of Abey, 800 kilometres south-west of Khartoum, where relief officials say 10 people still are dying every day. The 10-day airlift was half-finished Monday, continuing smoothly.

Wannop, the U.N. development specialist, said U.N. strategy in the \$50-million relief appeal was to move displaced people from central and northern Kordofan and Darfur southward,

closer to home yet out of the reach of the fighting.

This would avoid inundating Khartoum further with more refugees, he said, and also would facilitate their movement home whenever the war ends.

Wannop said the plan would involve about 200,000 to 300,000 people, many of whom otherwise would make their way to join about 1 million people living in tin-and-canvas shanty towns around Khartoum. Those people were among the worst affected by the late-summer floods.

Sudan's minister of public communications, Taj El Sir Mustafa, told an interviewer Monday that the government estimated flood damage at 14 billion Sudanese pounds. He said fewer than 70 people died, but other sources have put the number as high as 91.

Mustafa said the two-year plan he accepted Monday was based on surveys conducted during three weeks of field work by World Bank experts.

The programme will be presented to donor countries and contributors next month, he said, with the World Bank acting as "a witness to the correctness of the information and the plan as well as its execution."

Mitterrand urges Palestinians to take public stand on Israel

PARIS (R) — President Francois Mitterrand said Monday Palestinian leaders should speak out on whether they would recognise Israel.

"If the main Palestinian leaders have decided to recognise the existence (of Israel), it would perhaps be wiser to say so," Mitterrand said at a banquet in honour of visiting Israeli President Chaim Herzog.

"It's a diplomatic game. Who will talk first?" he asked.

The Palestine National Council, the Palestinian parliament-in-exile, is due to meet in Algiers around October 31 and is expected to declare an independent state.

Should they be a homeless people?" Mitterrand said.

"They must say what they want and recognise the principle that no peace is possible if it presupposes the disappearance of Israel."

Mitterrand said an international peace conference brought about by the United Nations Security Council was the best way to start direct dialogue in the Middle East, but Herzog in a speech called for bilateral negotiations between Israel and its Arab

neighbours.

He said neighbouring Arab countries would have to recognise Israel's existence as a state, like late Egyptian leader Anwar Sadat who forged the 1977 Camp David accords with Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin.

"We will forge peace together, round a negotiating table, when our neighbours follow President Sadat's example," Herzog added. His five-day visit is the first by an Israeli head of state to France. He leaves on Friday.

Peres gets cool reception from Arab voters

SHFAAMR (AP) — Shimon Peres kissed a flower-bearing girl and shook hands with robe-clad dignitaries during a campaign stop in this Arab town, but once the organised hoopla was over, the reception for the Labour Party leader turned frosty.

Both Denktash and Turkey objected to the international recognition extended to Vassiliou, who visited the United Nations in New York, as well as London and Paris in the past fortnight as head of the Cyprus government.

Vassiliou rejected Denktash's complaints about his foreign visits. He said these had been planned before the agreement to resume intercommunal talks.

Most Shfaamr residents stayed indoors or watched from their balconies as Peres, his security men and a few dozen party activists walked through the town which gave half its votes to the Communist Party in 1984.

During a reception at the home of local Labour Party leader Khalil Mihal, Peres was handed flowers by Mihal's daughter, who wore a Hebrew sticker reading "I'm also for Labour."

Mihal had invited about 150 Arab notables who shook hands with Peres and provided the backdrop for brief welcoming speeches.

At a later rally, Peres urged Israeli Arabs not to "waste" their votes on the Communists or the

Progressive List for Peace. Both support the Palestine Liberation Organisation and are considered unacceptable to Likud as coalition partners.

"If this time, there is no peace, it will be the fault of the Israeli Arabs. If you waste your votes, nothing is going to happen."

Peres told about 500 people who listened in silence and applauded briefly and politely at the end.

About 330,000 of Israel's 800,000 Arab citizens are eligible to vote this year, and could control 14 seats in the 120-member parliament. In 1984, one in four Arabs voted for Labour, giving the party the three seats that provided its 44-41 advantage over Likud.

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Study sees higher economic growth for North and South

VIENNA, Austria (Agencies) — The world economy will grow 3.9 per cent this year as both North and South appear headed for increased economic growth, the 1988-89 global report of the U.N. Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO) said Monday.

The world economy's rate of expansion in 1987 was 3.4 per cent.

The 256-page study, introduced by UNIDO Director-General Domingo Siazon, said in 1988 Third World countries should achieve a 4.4 per cent growth rate, which is a full percentage point higher than in 1987 and more than three times the rate in 1986.

Despite pessimistic projections and fears of overvalued economies, the report said that "developed countries will achieve a solid 3.5 per cent growth in 1988," with strong performances likely from the United States and Canada.

"UNIDO is of the view that at the end of 1988 the United States economy will register a 3.4 per cent growth in GDP, with the unemployment rate no lower than 5.4 per cent and the rate of inflation only slightly higher than four per cent," the annual review of the world economy said.

Strong showings also were forecast for Japan and Western Europe, with West Germany "most likely" to achieve a growth rate higher than the 1.9 per cent projected by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

As a whole, OECD countries

were expected to enjoy an average growth of 3.5 per cent in 1988, reversing the steadily declining growth trend in recent years.

"This long-awaited and above-par performance by the OECD countries," the report said, "will improve the economic prospects for developing countries in 1988."

The immediate outlook for the Third World seemed "considerably" better than reported previously and "many economically troubled countries will make substantial strides toward adjustment with growth for the first time since 1980," the report said.

However, the yearly study warned that in the medium term, the possibility of another recession cannot be completely ruled out.

It noted among several causes for concern a "public hypersensitivity" about inflation in the United States, Europe and Japan, "the continuing fascination of the public by the month-to-month behaviour of the U.S. trade statistics," and a deflationary course for the U.S. economy requested by West European leaders and policy-makers.

"It cannot be ruled out that the (new) incoming (U.S.) administration may ask for and obtain a

drastic reduction in public spending. That would inevitably generate a recession," the global report said.

It warned that an American recession could slow down the pace of the world economy to a consideration extent.

"UNIDO is not predicting a recession but... a continuous economic growth of 3.4 per cent annually well into 1992. However, given the volatility of the international financial market and rising inflationary fear in many developed countries, the possibility of an unwanted and imposed recession in the United States should not be ruled out completely," the study said.

Economic reforms undertaken by some East European countries may have an adverse effect on their immediate growth and the impact of slow growth in these countries "will probably be felt by very few developing nations," the report said.

Communist nations in Asia, particularly China, will have higher growth rates.

In Latin America, Brazil and Mexico were expected to enjoy strong performances while Argentina may have a drop in GDP, the report said.

The countries of North Africa were expected to do better, except for Libya and Sudan, while those of the Indian subcontinent, especially India and Pakistan, were likely to have higher growth rates, the UNIDO report said.

Siazon said Monday that UNIDO, for years on the brink of bankruptcy, has solved its cash

flow problems for 1988.

Siazon told a news conference that several member states, including the United States, had paid or agreed to pay off some of their sizeable arrears to the Vienna-based organisation, which promotes Third World industrial development.

"As from today I can tell you that we have no cash-flow problems for this year," Siazon said. He said UNIDO would be solvent in 1988 even without a \$12 million contribution promised by the United States, which is expected to arrive in the next two weeks. "But when we receive it things will be much better."

Siazon said UNIDO's financial situation had been boosted by a \$16 million United Nations loan, a working capital fund worth \$9 million and savings made from its 1987 budget by "conservative spending."

UNIDO had also increased the number of projects in which it is involved.

"As of September 1988, UNIDO has delivered \$94.5 million of technical assistance projects. This is about \$18 million higher than the amount delivered in the same period last year," he said.

He added there were new project agreements totalling about \$171 million, about \$30 million higher than last year.

"In terms of project delivery we're up, in terms of new project agreements we're up and in terms of our regular budget and operational budget, the financial situation is very good here," he said.

OIC probes ways to food security

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (AP) — The Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) comprised of some of the world's poorest nations, convened Tuesday for a three-day meeting to discuss ways to end hunger.

Representatives from 42 of the 46 organisation members are in the Pakistan capital to sort through proposals directed at agricultural development and food security.

Sharifuddin Pirzada, the organisation's secretary-general, told delegates the economic outlook for developing countries "continues to be bleak."

Protectionist policies are taking hold in the developing world while the poor continue to buckle under the weight of "high export bills and crippling debt burdens," he said.

Countries within the OIC, such as Sudan and Bangladesh, also

have been hit hard by natural disasters such as drought and heavy flooding.

Pirzada said the OIC should initiate regional stockpiling, which would be used to bail out countries hit by these natural disasters.

Pakistan President Ghulam Ishaq Khan said 1988 has been a particularly bad year for organisation members. Floods have forced countries to import more cereal products as the international price of cereals has risen, he said.

Consequently, much of the foreign exchange required to pay off debts on the international money market and finance internal development projects is being diverted.

Ishaq Khan suggested that organisation members stop exporting raw materials and instead establish agricultural manufactur-

ing industries.

"Exporting raw materials is not profitable," he said.

The president of Pakistan's caretaker government also called on organisation members to increase trade with each other. He said only one-eighth of agricultural trade done by organisation members was with each other.

However, Ishaq Khan warned against taking internal trade to the extreme and moving toward isolationist attitude.

"Collective food security should not mean isolation from the rest of the world," he warned. "While promoting international food trade, Ishaq Khan said it is so vital and basic (a) need that there should not be any undue large dependence on food imports by the Islamic community as a whole."

Islamic countries spend \$23 bil-

lion a year on staples such as sugar, cereal and meat. Unless these countries move toward self-sufficiency in food, that amount will almost double by the end of the century, Ishaq Khan said.

"Economic weakness eventually leads to political subservience," said Ishaq Khan. "The enormous gap between production and demand can be breached."

Sartaj Aziz, Pakistan's food, agriculture, local government and rural development minister, said one-fifth of the people living within the organisation was malnourished or undernourished, and 40 per cent of those are below the age of 15 years old.

Pakistan was among the founding members of the organisation in 1969. Its membership represents 850 million people farming 200 million hectares of arable land.

Tabbaa begins talks in Egypt

CAIRO (Petra) — Industry and Trade Minister Hamdi Tabbaa held talks here with Egyptian ministers Tuesday to promote Jordanian-Egyptian economic and trade relations at all levels.

During the meetings, the two sides reviewed a report by the holding company on the progress of work on joint projects agreed on by the Joint Jordanian-Egyptian Higher Committee including one for the production of animal feed and another to produce lean meat which will be established in Egypt.

The report said that final studies on the two projects have been finalised.

The two sides discussed steps to be taken to set up a fishing industry in Egypt and a tourism company which will involve businessmen from Egypt and Jordan.

A meeting by the ministers of tourism of both countries and other businessmen representing the private sector will meet next month to review the joint tourism projects.

The projects were specifically discussed by Tabbaa and his accompanying delegation with Egyptian Minister Maurice Makramallah and his aides.

Following the meeting, Tabbaa met with Dr. Usri Mustafa the Egyptian minister of economy and foreign trade with whom he discussed economic and trade relations.

Both ministers later expressed their satisfaction with the level of trade between the two countries

and the operations of their respective trade centres in Amman and Cairo.

At the end of the meetings it was announced that Egypt has given its consent for the purchase of 750,000 tonnes of Jordanian cement.

Tabbaa earlier told the Jordan News Agency, Petra, that the volume of trade between Jordan and Egypt now stands at \$250 million and there are numerous channels for expanding bilateral trade.

Firm to study export shipping

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — An international consultancy firm has offered to conduct a free-of-charge feasibility study designed to develop Amman Civil Airport, enabling it to handle the process of exporting Jordan's agricultural products, according to an announcement here Tuesday by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA).

National agricultural products are now being exported to various Arab and European countries under arrangements worked out by the Jordan Agricultural Marketing and Processing Company (JAMPCO), and most shipments are flown to these countries via the Queen Alia International Airport.

According to the CAA announcement, the international firm had earlier submitted an initial study on the subject.

It said that representatives of the international firm, the Ministries of Transport and Agriculture in addition to Royal Jordanian, the national airline company, the CAA and JAMPCO

will hold a meeting Wednesday to discuss the offer.

Another announcement by the CAA said that a team from the Saudi Arabian civil aviation authority will arrive in Amman Wednesday for talks on coordinating air control operations between the air zones of Amman and Jeddah.

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

Nsour, Azar return from India

AMMAN (Petra) — Arab Potash Company (APC) Director-General Abdulla Nsour and Jordan Phosphate Mines Company (JPMC) Director-General Wasef Azar have returned to Amman following a visit to India where they discussed the sale of Jordanian phosphate and potash to Indian markets. During their visit, Indian fertiliser companies organised a seminar at the city of Srinagar to discuss potash and phosphate processing operations, according to a spokesman for the two companies. He said that experts in fertilisers from France, India and Japan took part in the seminar which discussed 16 working papers. India is the world's major importer of Jordan's phosphate and potash buying nearly 50 per cent of its phosphate needs and 30 per cent of its potash needs from the Kingdom.

Soviets produce new passenger jet

MOSCOW (AP) — Soviet designers have created a new passenger jet for 3,500 to 4,000 kilometre routes that carries 214 passengers and should be the most economical Soviet plane in its class, Pravda reported Monday. The airliner, named the Tupolev-204, is to undergo flight trials this year and be introduced into service by the state-run carrier Aeroflot in 1990, the Communist Party daily said. Alexei Tupolev, head of the Tupolev design bureau, said the goal was to create a plane that would consume a much smaller amount of fuel and be cheaper to operate. Pravda said aircraft builders believe the jetliner will be the most economical Soviet plane in its class. The TU-204 will also be more comfortable for passengers, and will make less noise than other models, Pravda said.

Fahd calls for spending cuts

RIYADH (R) — King Fahd Monday called on his ministers to cut expenditure in Saudi Arabia. King Fahd also ordered the formation of a ministerial committee to evaluate government expenditure on industrial projects and their returns.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

	Tuesday rates		Market rates	
	Central Bank official rates		Buy	Sell
U.S. dollar	441.0	443.0	472.5	488.8
Pound Sterling	768.2	772.1	820.0	837.5
Deutsche mark	242.6	243.8	257.0	266.3
Swiss franc	286.6	288.0	286.7	296.7
French franc	71.1	75.5	74.7	76.8
Japanese yen (for 100)	345.0	346.7	—	—
Dutch guilder	215.3	216.4	—	—
Swedish crown	70.6	71.0	70.6	71.0
Italian lira (for 100)	32.6	33.8	—	—
Belgian franc (for 10)	115.7	116.3	—	—
Saudi riyal	—	—	125.3	126.3
Lebanese lira	—	—	—	—
Syrian lira	—	—	11.1	11.3
Iraqi dinar	—	—	287.5	298.8
Kuwaiti dinar	—	—	1665.0	1682.5
Egyptian pound (new)	—	—	197.5	211.3
Egyptian pound (old)	—	—	187.5	201.3
UAE dirham	—	—	125.0	126.1
Qatari riyal	—	—	126.0	127.6
Omani riyal	—	—	1192.5	1202.5
Bahraini dinar	—	—	1240.0	1253.0

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

Activity on the Amman Financial Market for Oct. 18, 1988.

	Number	Volume	Contracts
Regular market:	1546357	JD 2045375	1661
Top three companies:			
Intermediate Petrochemical Industries	146601	JD 211704	156
Arab Bank Ltd.	1450	JD 183395	69
Arab Aluminium Manufacturing	77850	JD 152824	93
Parallel market:	8932	JD 2568	—
Development bonds:	6350	JD 65483	—
Treasury bills & bonds:	1200	JD 120000	—
Other debentures:	—	—	—

JORDAN BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Ministry of Industry and Trade	663191	Jordan Commercial Centres	603597
Ministry of Supply	602121	Free Zones Corporation	642001
Ministry of Finance	636321	Amman Financial Market	660170
Ministry of Planning	644466	Amman Chamber of Commerce	666151
Ministry of Labour	631186	Amman Chamber of Industry	644747
Ministry of Agriculture	639291	Association of Banks in Jordan	662238
Income Tax Department	660151	Jordan Association of Insurance Companies	647370
Customs Bank of Jordan	630301	General Statistics Department	646171
Amman Customs Department	772181	Jordanian Businessmen Association	680663
Social Security Corporation	643000		
Jordan Industrial Estates Corporation	721194		

Congress report criticises USAID

WASHINGTON (AP) — Some U.S. aid to Egyptian and Pakistani government agencies undercuts President Ronald Reagan's policy of helping private business and discouraging government enterprises, congressional investigators say.

The criticism came from the General Accounting Office (GAO), which watches government spending for Congress.

The report centred on goods distributed by the U.S. Agency

for International Development (USAID), including farm and building equipment, spare parts, grain and oil.

"For example, although USAID has encouraged Pakistan to eliminate agricultural subsidies, (it has) financed \$142 million in fertiliser and \$123 million in wheat and cotton imports that (Pakistan) government agents sell to farmers and consumers at subsidised prices," the report said.

The largest of these "commodity import programmes," which amounted to \$359 million in 1987, go to Egypt and Pakistan. Egypt has had \$3 billion worth of this kind of aid since 1975, the report said.

Official policy at USAID says goods that government-owned enterprises get at subsidised prices hurt a country's development because they discourage sales at market prices.

In Egypt the GAO found that the government had piled up \$325 million worth of Egyptian pounds, over half the proceeds from sales of USAID goods, instead of using the money for development projects.

"Because of Egypt's high inflation rate — 20 per cent in 1986 —

the cost of this large accumulation of local currencies remaining idle is high in terms of missed opportunities to support development," according to the report.

Inflation in Egypt has been reported easing this year, however.

The report included a memo from Richard Bissell, the assistant USAID administrator, saying that the Egyptian govern-

ment has tentatively promised to release about \$165 million worth of the local currency for development efforts this year and next.

"The report's conclusion that more development is achieved by applying more local currency to more projects, rather than specific budgetary support without regard to the circumstances in a given country, is not supported by any analysis in the report," Bissell wrote.

Turkey unveils '89 austerity budget

ANKARA (R) — Turkey Monday unveiled an austerity draft budget for 1989 which some bankers dismissed as unrealistic despite the release of improved economic data.

Prime Minister Turgut Ozal said the budget was part of a stiff package of measures to deal with inflation which was running at an annual 81.8 per cent at the end of September.

"Let nobody be in doubt. The measures will be comprehensive-

ly enforced. All the conditions of the free market will be realised," Ozal told Milliyet newspaper.

The International Monetary Fund and World Bank have urged action to cut inflation and Ozal has said he hopes to bring the annual rate down to 60 per cent by the end of the year.

Some senior bankers in Istanbul said they doubted some of the 1989 targets — like 38 per cent wholesale inflation — could be achieved.

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WORLD STOCK MARKETS

SYDNEY — Shares closed firmer but off the day's highs as profit-takers moved in, brokers said. The All Ordinaries index closed 4.1 points up at 1,571.0.

TOKYO — Prices closed down but slightly above their lows, in dull trade with no factors to pull them up. The Nikkei index lost 126.76 points, 0.46 per cent, to close at 27,141.98.

HONG KONG — Share prices closed slightly lower with most investors cautious ahead of Wednesday's local market holiday and ahead of the first anniversary of last October's global stocks crash. The Hang Seng index ended 3.15 points lower at 2,590.41.

SINGAPORE — Share prices closed moderately higher across the board on continued bargain-hunting and some institutional buying. The Straits Times Industrial index rose 13.02 points to 1,016.09.

BOMBAY — Share prices rallied smartly on fresh institutional and investor demand in moderate trading for the new account. Tata Steel rose 11.25 rupees to 947.5.

FRANKFURT — Foreign interest in undervalued German car stocks boosted West German shares to new 1988 highs in active dealings. The Real Time 30-share DAX index peaked at a new 1988 high of 1,302.89 but then slipped back to close at 1,295.79.

ZURICH — Swiss shares closed steady in moderate trading as Monday night's firmer Wall Street close and the stable dollar supported sentiment. The All Share Swiss index closed 0.8 point higher at 924.13 points.

PARIS — French shares extended gains by midsession as the market recovered after Monday's one per cent drop, but volumes were thin. The 50-share bourse indicator was up 0.37 per cent by 1200 GMT.

LONDON — Equities showed an easier bias in late trading after a surprise early fall on Wall Street. The FTSE index at 1430 GMT was just 0.1 up at 1,860.1.

NEW YORK — Stocks were narrowly mixed with blue chips higher. Neither bonds nor the dollar offered support for a gain on general interest generated by the Philip Morris takeover bid for Kraft. The Dow was up two at 2143 after a sharp early loss.

Panel 1: A woman in a business suit stands in a room with a "NO" sign on the wall, looking distressed as she holds her head.

Panel 2: She is shouting "YAHOO!!" with a speech bubble, standing in front of a window with broken glass.

Panel 3: Two men, one balding and one with glasses, are talking to her. The man with glasses says, "WHAT'S GOT INTO HIM, FLO?"

Panel 4: The two men are talking to each other. The balding man says, "THAT FEELING YOU GET JUST AFTER A GREAT IDEA HITS YOU, IT JUST BEFORE YOU REALISE IT WON'T WORK"

U.S. assured of Philippine bases use

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The United States has agreed to boost economic and military assistance to the Philippines by \$258 million to guarantee U.S. military use of air and naval bases in the Philippines through 1991.

The agreement, which was signed Monday, permits U.S. military use of the bases through 1991 in exchange for \$962 million in U.S. aid.

The complex arrangement permits the Philippines to use "a substantial portion" to reduce its debt and bars U.S. soldiers who test positive for AIDS from serving in the Philippines.

In a ceremony Monday in the State Department's Treaty Room, Philippine Foreign Minister Raul Manglapus said that once Filipinos realise what the agreement gives them, they "will accept it as an agreement that is in keeping with the expectations of our people, not only in the matter of compensation... but also to other issues that we feel to

be relevant to the question of national dignity."

A U.S. statement said the United States hoped to begin talks with the Philippine government on use beyond 1991 in the "not too distant future."

Another key provision of the agreement, signed by Manglapus and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, maintains the U.S. policy of not disclosing whether ships or planes stopping at the bases or passing through carry nuclear weapons.

However, the Philippine government has the power to prohibit storing nuclear, chemical or

other non-conventional weaponry on its territory.

The nuclear issue was one of the key items that had to be settled before the United States could be assured continued use of Clark Air Base, Subic Bay Naval Base and four lesser installations.

The accord also deals to the Philippines all permanent facilities and improvements on buildings at the bases. The two governments pledged, meanwhile, to take steps to ensure a smooth transition of the bases to Philippine control if the United States decides in the future to abandon them.

President Corason Aquino said Tuesday the new agreement reaffirms "the enduring bilateral relationship" with Washington, but newspapers accused her government of a sellout by accepting far less than was demanded.

Critics warned the pact would strengthen calls for closing the installations in 1991.

"The agreement reaffirms the enduring bilateral relationship between our respective countries and allows us to proceed, to improve other aspects in that relationship," Aquino said in a statement to reporters.

French economist wins Nobel prize

STOCKHOLM (R) — Maurice Allais, founding father of modern French economics, won the 1988 Nobel Economics Prize Tuesday, mainly for studies into the efficient operations of large state-owned monopolies.

"Allais is a giant within the world of economic analysis," said Assar Lindbeck, chairman of the awarding committee of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences.

"He has had an enormous influence on French economics and can be said to be the founding father of the French School of Modern Economics," Lindbeck told a news conference.

In Paris, the 77-year-old economist said he had given up hope of ever receiving the award, which this year is worth 2.5 million crowns (\$400,000).

"I knew they had been considering me for the last two years but I no longer expected it," he told Reuters.

Allais made his main theoretical contributions in two massive studies published in 1943 and 1954, the first running to 900 pages and the second to 800.

But their very length and complexity prevented his work becoming well-known beyond the border of France.

The Nobel committee quoted the assessment of a previous Nobel laureate, American Paul Samuelson, who won the prize in 1970. He said:

"Allais is a fountain of original and independent discovery. Had his earliest writings been in English, a generation of economic theory would have taken a different course."

Allais' work on the efficient utilisation of resources was of particular relevance for the management of the large state-owned monopolies which sprang up in Western Europe after World War II.

analysis for decision-making in public utilities," said Lindbeck.

Younger French economists built on the basic research to produce detailed analyses of companies such as the French state-owned railway SNCF and the Electricite de France utility.

The theory he advanced, according to the committee, stated that an economic situation whereby demand for a product matches supply is socially efficient in the sense that no one can become better off without someone else becoming worse off.

Such situations could be achieved through redistribution of resources and a system of stable prices, Allais stated.

The academy said Allais has had a far-reaching indirect impact through younger French economists who have been strongly influenced by his work.

"In his 1948 study, Allais anticipated important results in research which led to the modern theory of economic growth in the late 1950s and early 1960s," the citation said.

Allais has been a professor at the Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Mines de Paris and director of the school's Economic Research Institute since 1944.

A few years later, he was appointed research director at the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique.

He was named an officer of the Legion d'Honneur in 1977 and has often contributed to French newspapers. As well as his economics studies, he has published articles on history and physics.

The economics prize was established by the Bank of Sweden in 1968 to complement the five awards endowed by Swedish industrialist Alfred Nobel in his 1896 will.

It was the fourth of this year's prizes to be decided. The physics and chemistry award winners are to be announced Wednesday.

IISS says serious budget conflicts possible in NATO

LONDON (Agencies) — Disputes over defence spending could trigger serious political conflict between the United States and its NATO partners, the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS) said Tuesday.

The IISS said in its annual "Military Balance" report that pressure to reduce government spending had serious effects on NATO defence outlay. Britain cut its budget by 0.4 per cent in 1987, West German military spending rose only 0.8 per cent and Belgium managed only a 0.3 per cent increase.

"There could be a serious conflict between the United States and its European partners over NATO burden-sharing in the coming years as the U.S. Congress is demanding a greater financial input in the alliance by the European NATO members," the independent London-based group said.

"European governments will face awkward political and fiscal choices. The most obvious solution

would be to delay some projects to match limited financial resources and a further intensification of co-production of arms," it added.

U.S. defence spending has also declined in real terms over the last four years.

"The continuing high trade and budget deficits, the priority requirements for domestic expenditure and the general improvement in East-West relations all make it highly unlikely that the next administration will increase defence spending," the IISS said.

The institute also said Soviet conventional forces remain poised for swift attack — with no sign of a winding down or switching to defensive positions despite four years of talk of change since Mikhail Gorbachev took office.

In the past year, the numerical superiority of the communist Warsaw Pact's conventional forces over those of NATO alliance has, if anything, increased, the survey said.

Haiti confirms foiled coup bid

PORT-AU-PRINCE (AP) — The government said Monday it had foiled an attempt by two army officers to overthrow Haitian President Lieutenant General Prosper Avril, who came to power in a military coup one month ago.

Radio Soliel, a Roman Catholic station, said "several soldiers" were wounded and 30 arrested in the attempted coup early Sunday.

Government spokesman Frantz Lubin said several officers were arrested, but he said he could not confirm the radio report indicating there had been gunfire.

Avril presided Monday under tight security over ceremonies at the national palace to celebrate Haiti's independence from France in 1804.

Nearby, about 6,000 people demonstrated against a plan by the Roman Catholic Church to force an activist priest, the Reverend Jean-Bertrand Aristide, to leave Haiti. There was no indication the attempted coup was linked to the priest's proposed ouster.

The capital of Port-au-Prince has been tense since Wednesday.

when followers of Aristide have staged demonstrations against his proposed transfer to Canada.

Lubin said the attempt was led by Sergeant Patrick Frantz Bochart, who headed a government lottery, and by former Colonel Samuel Jeremie, a murder convict who escaped from prison following the Sept. 17 coup in which rank-and-file soldiers installed Avril in place of Lt. Gen. Henri Namphy.

The motive for the move against Avril was unknown.

But Hubert de Roncery, a prominent conservative politician, said "hunger for power" may be afflicting soldiers of the September coup.

He described Jeremie as "a pillar" of the Duvalier family dictatorship and said there could be "an alliance in the works" between the soldiers and the Tonton Macoute. "The feared secret police of Jean-Claude Duvalier, who fled to exile in France in February 1986.

Democratic reforms

Since assuming power, Avril, 50, has taken several steps toward democratic reform. He expelled

about 60 repressive army commanders, named a predominantly civilian cabinet and has promised to restore Haiti's constitution. He also pledged to hold civilian elections, but has set no time-table other than to say elections probably could not be held before 1991.

Last month's coup was triggered by a massacre Sept. 11 at Aristide's church in a slum neighbourhood. Thugs armed with guns, machetes, clubs and spikes stormed the church while Aristide said mass, killing 12 people and wounding at least 70 others before burning down the church. After the coup, the rebellious soldiers said they wanted an end to Haiti's random violence and to institute constitutional reforms and presidential elections.

Aristide, a Salesian order priest, was ordered out of the country by his superiors in Rome and the deadline for his departure was Monday.

Aristide had not left by Monday evening, said a close friend of the activist priest on condition of anonymity.

Poll: Dukakis could be swamped Nov. 8

WASHINGTON (R) — George Bush has opened up a 17-point lead over Michael Dukakis with just three weeks to go before the Nov. 8 election, raising the possibility of the third straight presidential landslide for the Republicans.

An NBC poll released Monday said Bush now leads the Democratic rival by 55-38 per cent as previously undecided voters moved in droves to the vice-president. The poll has a three-per cent margin of error. Just one month ago, NBC polling showed Bush with a narrow 44-41 per cent lead with 15 per cent undecided.

The new survey represents a

180-degree turn in the last three months. Bush trailed Dukakis by an identical 17 points in the days after the Democrats' July convention.

The latest survey seemed to confirm a widespread feeling that a poor performance by Dukakis in last Thursday's final presidential debate had left the Democrat facing long odds in his bid to catch Bush in the campaign's final three weeks.

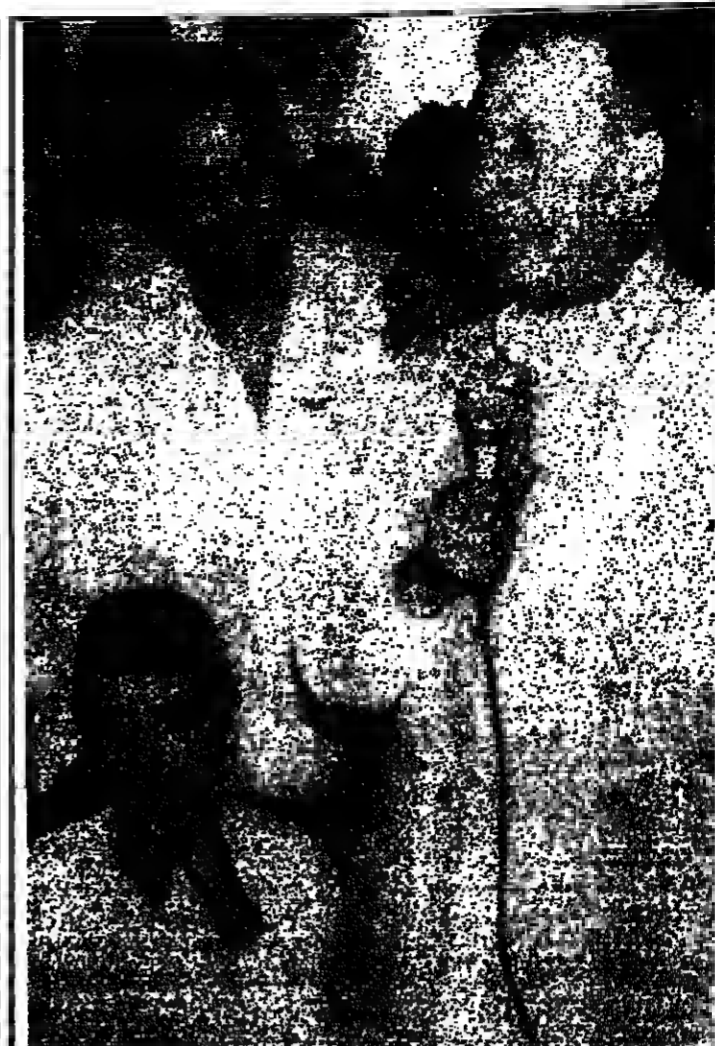
Dukakis campaign Chairman Paul Broutas told reporters the new poll was off base and that the Democrats' private surveys showed a closer race with more undecided voters.

And Dukakis, visiting a diner and a bowling alley in Ohio, tried to scoff at the polls by saying he was meeting the "real people," who vote.

But in a possible metaphor for his campaign, Dukakis' second roll at the bowling alley produced a gutter ball.

If NBC's numbers prove correct, Bush could be heading for a victory almost as big as President Reagan's 1984 route against Walter Mondale. Reagan won by 59-41 per cent.

The vice-president also appears to hold a huge lead in the electoral vote that will actually determine the winner.



Pakistani Muslim League leaders Fida Mohammad Khan (right) and former Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo (seated) announce an election alliance against Benazir Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party (PPP) last week. But they failed to come up with a grand alliance.

Bhutto rivals fail to form grand alliance

ISLAMABAD (R) — Rivals of Pakistani opposition leader Benazir Bhutto have failed to form a grand alliance against her in general elections next month, the official APP news agency said.

It said leaders of two alliances opposing Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party (PPP) decided Monday after two days of talks to contest the Nov. 16 polls separately.

But they would make "adjustments of (electoral) seats to avoid a direct clash between their candidates," it said.

The PPP is Pakistan's largest opposition group and analysts say it has been faring well politically in recent weeks.

The talks took place in the Punjab province capital of Lahore after a decision Friday by two quarrelling factions of the ruling Pakistan Muslim League (PML) to reunite to face the PPP in the Nov. 16 polls.

"All the efforts to form a greater political alliance of the two alliances had failed," APP said in a despatch Monday.

The PML factions had joined two different alliances, and it was not immediately clear which group the reunited PML had chosen to side.

The alliances have still to make final their candidates' lists for the 237-seat National Assembly (lower house of parliament).

Former Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo's faction of the PML had formed the Pakistan People's Alliance (PPA) with two other smaller political parties.

The other PML faction, led by the powerful chief ministers of Pakistan's four provinces, was the main force in the eight-party Islamic Democratic Alliance (IDA).

Junejo Friday became the leader of the reunited PML, which had split after President Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq sacked Junejo as prime minister last May and dismissed the National Assembly.

Zia was killed in a plane crash Aug. 17. An air force report said the crash "most probably" was caused by sabotage.

Fugitive activists to leave Johannesburg consulate

JOHANNESBURG (Agencies) — Three black anti-apartheid activists who fled from detention to the U.S. consulate in Johannesburg last month will leave the mission Wednesday, supporters said in a statement.

The anti-apartheid Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU) said Tuesday the three would test a government undertaking not to rearrest them.

The activists — Murphy Morobe, Mohammed Valli and Vusi Khanyile — appeared to be acting on the advice of jailed nationalist leader Nelson Mandela.

Mandela's wife, Winnie, brought a message to them after visiting her husband in hospital Saturday.

The men, who had all been detained without trial for at least a year, escaped to the 11th floor mission while being treated at Johannesburg hospital Sept. 13.

Pretoria said it had been planning to release the men and gave an assurance they would not be rearrested when they left the consulate in central Johannesburg.

"This is a major test of the government's undertaking and will once again bring the spotlight on the detention and persecution of anti-apartheid activists," the COSATU statement said.

About 30,000 government opponents have been detained without charge for varying periods since the government declared a state of emergency in June 1986.

COSATU said the three prisoners embarked on the consulate sit-in to draw attention to the plight of detainees.

Morobe and Valli, leaders of the United Democratic Front, had been jailed for 14 months without trial.

Taiwanese copycats upstage Hollywood moguls

By Andrew Quinn
Reuters

TAIPEI — If you want to see the latest Hollywood blockbuster in Taiwan, skip the cinema.

The place to go is an "MTV," a video club where you can watch pirated movies in the comfort of a private room.

For the equivalent of \$3, a wide choice of movies — from the classics to the latest box-office hits — is available.

Taiwan's expert copycats have turned their attention from fake watches and handbags to films.

Hollywood is not appealing.

"This spring, the kids were all watching pirated versions of Crocodile Dundee II, while my official copy was locked up in customs," fumed Frank Fan, Taiwan agent for America's movie industry.

"We consider MTVs to be

illegal operations that should be eliminated," said Fan, who represents among others, MGM, Paramount, United Artists and Universal Pictures.

Despite legal action, massive advertising campaigns and diplomatic pressure, America's movie moguls seem to be losing out to Taiwan's small-time showmen.

MTVs began in the early 1980s as coffee shops that attracted customers by showing clips from the U.S. Cable music video channel MTV.

Business boomed, and they soon began showing feature-length films. There are now tens of thousands of MTVs, some capable of seating hundreds of patrons.

Taiwan's many underground copying operations keep MTVs stocked with up-to-date films by churning out thousands of illegal copies from master videotapes smuggled in from the United States.

Some low-budget pirates even sneak recording equipment into cinemas to copy the films directly off the screen.

For only a fraction of the official retail cost, MTV owners can obtain films, which are then shown at huge profit to Taiwan's star-struck youth.

"Taiwan is so small and crowded, there are few places where young people can go to be alone," said Paul Huang, head of videogame control at Taiwan's government Information Office.

"The market demand for these things is huge," Huang said.

Despite fears that the darkness and privacy offered by MTVs could encourage youngsters to emulate the steamy love scenes on the screen, the government decided in May to bow to market pressure and legalise the operations.

Hit where it hurts

The motion picture companies were outraged, saying the government was ignoring grand larceny by Taiwan's film bandits.

"Our calendar year income in 1987 was 32 per cent less than in 1986, largely because of MTVs," Fan said, adding that the total loss ran more than \$5 million.

In an effort to protect film copyrights in Taiwan, a group of American film studios last year set up the Foundation for the Protection of Film and Video Works.

The foundation has run a massive advertising blitz to try to persuade Taiwan movie buffs that MTVs are not a good idea. But the campaign has a long way to go.

"There is no traditional concept of copyright in Chinese culture," said Chen Li-Hui, a member of the copyright com-

mittee at the Interior Ministry.

"For thousands of years, we've believed that if you copy someone it means you respect them."

The latest round of U.S.-Taiwan copyright talks are scheduled for Taipei this month and Taiwan has promised it will be stricter on copyright rules.

U.S. film companies were shocked in July, however, when a Taiwan court ruled that screening a movie at an MTV did not constitute a "public showing."

Few MTV owners are worried by the government's promise to crack down on businesses that do not officially register. Since May, only one MTV house has applied for and received government approval.

"Why bother?" one MTV owner said.

"We've been 'illegal' for years and nobody's done anything about it yet."

Reagan clothes controversy

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan Monday was described as "very upset" about a news report that his wife borrowed costly clothing without making requested disclosures.

Mrs. Reagan's spokeswoman said the borrowing was not illegal. "I haven't talked to the president (but) I understand he's very upset about the attacks on the first lady," spokeswoman Marlin Fitzwater told reporters.

"There's nothing illegal that's been done... if designers loan her things and she returns them, I don't see anything wrong," said Elaine Crispin, Mrs. Reagan's spokeswoman. Fitzwater and Crispin were responding to questions about a potentially embarrassing Time Magazine report, which alleged that the first lady made a practice of borrowing expensive designer dresses and jewellery from U.S. fashion houses but did not show this on financial disclosure forms that she and her husband must submit.

"Monopoly" goes Soviet

LONDON (R) — "Monopoly", the U.S. board game that has taught generations of youngsters around the globe how to be good capitalists, has gone Soviet.

Although "Do not pass go, do not collect 200 rubles" might have an unfamiliar ring to it, the venerable game's maker, Parker Brothers, said Monday it hopes its 23rd foreign language edition will find a market in the Soviet Union.

Moscow roads have replaced the streets of New Jersey's Atlantic City, the game's original grid of fortune that Americans began to follow during the depression of the 1930s. Arbat, Moscow's busy shopping area, replaces "Boardwalk," and "Smolenskaya Ploshchad" is there instead of "Marvin Gardens."

The "Christmas Club" card has been changed to "lottery" to account for the absence of religious holidays in the Soviet calendar, the company said. But Parker Brothers drew the line on nationalising the privately-owned railways and utilities on the board.

'Mikki Maous' in Moscow

MOSCOW (AP) — Here he's called "Mikki Maus," and the 60-year-old American has surprisingly good rapport with Soviet youngsters for an international film star making his first live appearance in the Soviet Union.

Sunday evening at Moscow's 2,500-seat Rossiya Theatre, with a police cordon worthy of a minor head of state outside, the first Soviet festival of Walt Disney animated classics opened with a showing of "Fantasia" and a visit by Mickey Mouse.

Business with many holes

LOMBARD, Illinois (AP) — A woman who used her retirement money to buy thousands of defective rubber gloves in an attempt to exploit the growing concern over AIDS admits her business judgement was full of holes. Today, 60-year-old Justine Spiros has 600,000 latex gloves in her basement, and apparently no way to get rid of them.

She let alone recover her \$61,000 outlay to buy them in the first place. The grandmother of five said she first realised her business venture might be getting out of hand when she started looking for samples to send to prospective customers. "I found gloves with fingers off, with big holes, tears, stains, streaks and lumps," Spiros recalled. Things went downhill from there. Spiros can't sell the gloves because huge numbers are defective, and the seller won't give her a refund. Spiros got into the business because with growing concern about blood-transmitted diseases — especially AIDS — demand for gloves was high and supply was short.

Botched burials shock relatives

CROSS PLAINS, Tennessee (AP) — The Cross Plains cemetery is dotted with mounds of freshly turned soil, marking graves reopened by families who feared that a funeral director improperly buried their loved ones. Many were horrified by what they found. "This lady right here, her casket was rolled over on its side and one of her arms and her head was sticking out," said Bonnie Clinard of Springfield. Funeral Director Bobby Wilks of nearby Milldale was arrested after family members told authorities he had buried a body without the \$375 vault they purchased. When the grave was opened, there was no vault.